OLYROOS

ASSOCIATION FOOTBALL RESULTS

2010 - 2019

Compiled by Doug.Butcher

This is an interim issue due to the restrictions caused by the Covid-19 virus that closed most avenues of research.

2010						
Date	Place	Teams		Score		Tournament
20-Sep	Hanoi, Vietnam	Democratic People's Republic of Korea (North Korea)	Australia U-23	1-0		1000th. Thang Long-Hanoi Cup
22-Sep	Hanoi	Vietnam	Australia U-23	0-2		1000th. Thang Long-Hanoi Cup
24-Sep	Hanoi, Vietnam	Kuwait U-23	Australia U-23	0-0		1000th. Thang Long-Hanoi Cup

2011						
Date	Place	Teams		Score		Tournament
1-Jun	Niigata	Japan U-22	Australia U-23	3-1		
14-Jun	Sydney	Australia U-23	Singapore U-23	6-0		
19-Jun	Gosford	Australia U-23	Yemen U-23	3-0		Asian qualifier, Preliminary round 2, 1st. Leg, Olympic Games
23-Jun	Newcastle	Australia U-23	Yemen U-23	4-0	Yemen home match played in Australia	Asian qualifier, Preliminary round 2, 2nd. Leg, Olympic Games
14-Sep	Adelaide	South Australian Select XI	Australia U-23	0-0		
21-Sep	Adelaide	Australia U-23	United Arab Emirates U-23	0-0		
22-Nov	Doha, Qatar	Iraq U-23	Australia U-23	0-0		Asian qualifier, Preliminary round 3, Olympic Games
27-Nov	Sydney	Australia U-23	Uzbekistan U-23	0-0		Asian qualifier, Preliminary round 3, Olympic Games

2012						
Date	Place	Teams		Score		Tournament
5-Feb	Tashkent	Uzbekistan U-23	Australia U-23	2-0		Asian qualifier, Preliminary round 3, Olympic Games
16-Feb	Dubai	Philippines	Australia U-23	0-1		
14-Mar	Gosford	Australia U-23	Iraq U-23	0-0		Asian qualifier, Preliminary round 3, Olympic Games
5-Jul	Pekanbaru	Indonesia U-22	Australia U-22	0-1	The Australian team was the U-20 side	AFC U-22 Championship, Qualifying round
7-Jul	Pekanbaru, Indonesia	Macau U-22	Australia U-22	2-3	The Australian team was the U-20 side	AFC U-22 Championship, Qualifying round
10-Jul	Pekanbaru, Indonesia	Singapore U-22	Australia U-22	0-0	The Australian team was the U-20 side	AFC U-22 Championship, Qualifying round
12-Jul	Pekanbaru, Indonesia	Timor Leste U-22	Australia U-22	0-3	The Australian team was the U-20 side	AFC U-22 Championship, Qualifying round
15-Jul	Pekanbaru, Indonesia	Japan U-22	Australia U-22	5-0	The Australian team was the U-20 side and the Japanese team were U-19	AFC U-22 Championship, Qualifying round

2014						
Date	Place	Teams		Score		Tournament
12-Jan	Muscat, Oman	Kuwait U-22	Australia U-22	0-1		AFC U-22 Championship, Finals 1st. round
14-Jan	Muscat, Oman	Iran U-22	Australia U-22	0-1		AFC U-22 Championship, Finals 1st. round
16-Jan	Muscat, Oman	Japan U-22	Australia U-22	4-0		AFC U-22 Championship, Finals 1st. round
20-Jan	Muscat, Oman	Saudi Arabia U-22	Australia U-22	2-1		AFC U-22 Championship, Finals, Quarter Final
14-Nov	Wuhan, People's Republic of China	Brazil U-22	Australia U-22	2-2		Four-Nation Tournament
16-Nov	Wuhan, People's Republic of China	People's Republic of China U-22	Australia U-22	3-1		Four-Nation Tournament
18-Nov	Wuhan, People's Republic of China	Korea Republic (South Korea) U-22	Australia U-22	0-1		Four-Nation Tournament

2015						
Date	Place	Teams		Score		Tournament
27-Mar	Kaohsiung City, Chinese Taipei	Hong Kong U-23	Australia U-23	0-6		AFC U-23 Championship, Qualifying Round
29-Mar	Kaohsiung City, Chinese Taipei	Chinese Taipei U-23	Australia U-23	0-4		AFC U-23 Championship, Qualifying Round
31-Mar	Kaohsiung City, Chinese Taipei	Myanmar U-23	Australia U-23	1-5		AFC U-23 Championship, Qualifying Round
4-Sep	Istanbul	Turkey U-21	Australia U-23	0-1		Gallipali Friendship Cup
7-Sep	Skopje	FYR Macedonia U-21	Australia U-23	3-1		
9-Oct	Hwaseong	Korea Republic U-22	Australia U-23	2-0		
12-Oct	Icheon	Korea Republic U-22	Australia U-23	2-1		
12-Nov	Doha	Qatar U-23	Australia U-23	3-1		
16-Nov	Dubai, UAE	Iran U-23	Australia U-23	1-1		

2016						
Date	Place	Teams		Score		Tournament
14-Jan	Doha, Qatar	United Arab Emirates U-23	Australia U-23	1-0		AFC U-23 Championship Finals, 1st. Round
17-Jan	Doha, Qatar	Vietnam U-23	Australia U-23	0-2		AFC U-23 Championship Finals, 1st. Round
20-Jan	Doha, Qatar	Jordan U-23	Australia U-23	0-0		AFC U-23 Championship Finals, 1st. Round

2017						
Date	Place	Teams		Score		Tournament
24-Mar	Murcia, Spain	Austria U-21	Australia U-23	1-1		
27-Mar	Murcia, Spain	Finland U-21	Australia U-23	2-0		
July	Sydney	Western Sydney Wanderers	Australia U-23	?-?		
14-Jul	Glenwood	Central Coast Mariners	Australia U-23	0-0		
19-Jul	Yangon, Myanmar	Brunei Darussalam U-23	Australia U-23	0-2		AFC U-23 Championship, Qualifying Round
21-Jul	Yangon, Myanmar	Singapore U-23	Australia U-23	0-7		AFC U-23 Championship, Qualifying Round
23-Jul	Yangon, Myanmar	Myanmar U-23	Australia U-23	0-3		AFC U-23 Championship, Qualifying Round

2018						
Date	Place	Teams		Score		Tournament
6-Jan	Shanghai, People's Republic of China	Thailand U-23	Australia U-23	1-2		
11-Jan	Kunshan, People's Republic of China	Syria U-23	Australia U-23	1-3		AFC U-23 Championship, Finals Group Stage, Group D
14-Jan	Kunshan, People's Republic of China	Vietnam U-23	Australia U-23	1-0		AFC U-23 Championship, Finals Group Stage, Group D
17-Jan	Kunshan, People's Republic of China	Korea Republic U-23	Australia U-23	3-2		AFC U-23 Championship, Finals Group Stage, Group D

2019						
Date	Place	Teams		Score		Tournament
22-Mar	Phnom Penh, Cambodia	Cambodia U-23	Australia U-23	0-6		AFC U-23 Championship, Qualifying Stage, Group H
24-Mar	Phnom Penh, Cambodia	Chinese Taipei U-23	Australia U-23	0-6		AFC U-23 Championship, Qualifying Stage, Group H
26-Mar	Phnom Penh, Cambodia	Korea Republic U-23	Australia U-23	2-2		AFC U-23 Championship, Qualifying Stage, Group H
6-Sep	Wollongong	Australia U-23	New Zealand U-23	1-1		
9-Sep	Campbelltown	Australia U-23	New Zealand U-23	1-1		
12-Oct	Doha, Qatar	Lusail City	Australia U-23	0-2		
14-Oct	Doha, Qatar	Islamic Republic of Iran U-23	Australia U-23	2-1		
15-Nov	Chongqing, People's Republic of China	People's Republic of China U-23	Australia U-23	1-5		Dazu Rock Carvings Cup International Football Tournament
17-Nov	Chongqing, People's Republic of China	Democratic People's Republic of Korea U-22	Australia U-23	0-4		Dazu Rock Carvings Cup International Football Tournament
19-Nov	Chongqing, People's Republic of China	Lithuania U-22	Australia U-23	0-1		Dazu Rock Carvings Cup International Football Tournament

2010

1000th. Thang Long - Hanoi Cup													
Date & Time			Venue					Weather		Temperature		Attendance	
20th. September 2010, 16.45			My Dinh National Stadium, Hanoi, Vietnam					Humid		30C		100	
Democratic People's Republic of Korea..1 v. Australia U-23..0													
half time, Democratic People's Republic of Korea..1 v. Australia U-23..0													
No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
	GK	Ri Myong-Guk						GK	Andrew Redmayne				
								DF	Luke DeVere		50		
								DF	Antony Golec				
		Kim Yong-Jun						DF	Sebastian Ryall				
								DF	Diogo Ferriera				71
								MF	Scott Neville		16		
								MF	Oliver Bozanic				
9		Pak Song-Chol	16					MF	Isaka Aongor Čerňák-Okanya				56*
								FW	Tahj James Rodney Minniecon				56
		An Chol-Hyok						FW	Christopher Payne				75
								FW	Marko Ješić				71*
SUBSTITUTES													
								MF	Mate Dugandzic				71
								FW	Jason Hoffman				56
								FW	Mirjan Pavlovic				75
								MF	Mitchell Nichols				56*
								MF	James Brown				71*
								GK	Jerrad Tyson				
								DF	Matthew Foschini				
								DF	Matthew Jurman				
								DF	Daniel Mullen				
Team Coach		Jo Tong Sop					Team Coach		Aurelio Vidmar				
Referee		Phùng Đình Dũng (Vietnam)											

The Democratic People's Republic of Korea squad consisted of:-
Goalkeepers - Kim Myong-gil, Ri Myong-guk, Ju Kwang-min.
Defenders - Ri Kwang-chon, Nam Song-chol, Pak Chol-jin, Jon Kwang-ik, Ri Kwang-hyok, Pak Yong-jin.
Midfielders - Mun In-guk, Kim Kum-il, Pak Nam-chol, Ri Chol-myong, Kim Yong-jun, Choe Myong-ho, Pak Song-chol, Kim Kyong-il, Yun Yong-il.
Forwards - Choe Kum-chol, An Chol-hyok, Pak Chol-min, Pak Kwang-ryong.

match report from FFA

The Qantas Olyroos narrowly lost in their opening match of the Four Nations Tournament in Vietnam.

The Qantas Olyroos have been narrowly defeated 0-1 by DPR Korea in their opening match of the Four Nations International Tournament in Vietnam.

In extremely oppressive conditions, which saw the temperature over 30 degrees and 80% humidity, both teams shared possession for the opening 15 minutes of the match.

The only goal of the game came in the 16th minute after Scott Neville conceded a free kick just outside the box for a late tackle. The resulting free kick by Park Song Chol was placed over the Qantas Olyroos wall, shaved the left post and deflected into goal despite a valiant diving save by goalkeeper Andrew Redmayne.

Ten minute later the Qantas Olyroos had a chance to equalise in similar circumstances after Oliver Bozanic was fouled 30 metres out from the DPR Korea goal. Chris Payne stepped up to take the free kick and smashed his strike into the left post but unfortunately in this instance the ball rebounded out of play.

The Qantas Olyroos had another great chance to level the match shortly before half time when Diogo Ferreira in midfield played the ball wide to Scott Neville on the right. Neville attacked down the side-line and crossed a great ball back into Ferreira, who had followed the play down field. Ferreira was able to get his head to the ball, but his attempt went marginally wide of the goal.

The match conditions became slightly more bearable in the second half and shortly after the restart Tahj Minniecon made a great individual run through the front third of the field only to see his final attempt on goal from the edge of the box go wide of the right-hand post.

The Qantas Olyroos went on to dominate possession for the majority of second stanza, but although they created many opportunities were unable to find the back of the net.

James Brown had a final chance to equalise in the 84th minute, but his well struck, right-footed shot forced an extremely good save out of the DPR Korea goalkeeper to deny the Qantas Olyroos a point.

Speaking after the match, Qantas Olyroos Head Coach Aurelio Vidmar was happy with the overall performance of his team, but disappointed by the lack of finishing. “I thought it was a very good performance for our first game together,” said Vidmar. “The players executed the game plan very well after only being together for a short period. The disappointing part is that we had a lot of chances and we should have scored goals from these opportunities. But overall it was a pleasing performance with a lot of positives that we will take into our next match,” concluded Vidmar.

In the other match of the tournament, host nation Vietnam defeated Kuwait 3-0.

The Qantas Olyroos will meet Kuwait in their next match of the tournament on Wednesday evening, with their final match against Vietnam on Friday.

match report from Dan Tri

Pha lập công sớm của Pak Song Chol trong hiệp một đã giúp ĐT CHDCND Triều Tiên có được chiến thắng sít sao 1-0 trước U23 Australia ở trận mở màn Cúp 1000 năm Thăng Long...

Không có nhiều ngôi sao trong đội hình nhưng cả CHDCND Triều Tiên và U23 Australia bước vào trận mở màn Cúp 1000 năm Thăng Long với quyết tâm giành chiến thắng.

Sớm có được bàn thắng ngay đầu hiệp một và trước một đại diện còn non kinh nghiệm xứ sở Kangaroo, ĐT Triều Tiêng không mấy khó khăn để bảo toàn chiến thắng 1-0 chung cuộc

Trở lại với diễn biến chính, ngay sau tiếng còi khai cuộc của trọng tài, hai đội nhập cuộc đầy hào hứng với các pha đôi công. Tuy nhiên, trong lúc U23 Australia chưa kịp tạo ra tình huống đáng chú ý nào thì đại diện châu Á kịp có bàn thắng.

Phút 17, từ quả sút phạt hàng rào, tiền đạo Pak Song Chol tung cú sút đầy kỹ thuật hạ gục thủ thành Redmayne đưa CHDCND Triều Tiên vượt lên dẫn trước.

Bất ngờ bị dẫn bàn trước, U23 Australia vội vã dồn lên tấn công trong khi đội bóng áo trắng chủ động lui sâu về phần sân nhà để bảo vệ thành quả và chỉ tổ chức phản công bằng những đường chuyền vượt tuyến.

Phút 24, xuất phát từ tình huống sút phạt ở cự ly chừng 20m, Baden Payne dứt điểm vào góc gần. Dù thủ thành Ri Myong Guk đã hoàn toàn bó tay thì bóng lại dội trúng xà ngang ra ngoài.

Chỉ trong vòng 3 phút sau đó, các cầu thủ trẻ xứ Kangaroo có liền hai cơ hội ngon ăn. Đầu tiên là nỗ lực đột phá rồi dứt điểm đi vọt xà trong gang tấc của Rodney ở phút 34. 3 phút sau, đến lượt Okanya đệm hụt bóng dù khoảng cách chưa đầy 7m.

Sang hiệp hai, với quyết tâm tìm kiếm bàn thắng gỡ hòa, đội bóng áo vàng xanh nhanh chóng triển khai các miếng tấn công. Phút 46, Baden Payne bất ngờ đột phá và dứt điểm nhưng bóng đi chệch cột dọc trong gang tấc.

Trước nguy cơ để đối phương chiếm lĩnh hoàn toàn khu trung tuyến, HLV So Tong Sop thúc giục các học trò dâng cao và điều đó ít nhiều có hiệu quả khi U23 Australia bế tắc trong việc tiếp cận cầu môn của Ri Myong Guk.

Không thể đưa được bóng vào khu vực 16m50, đoàn quân HLV Aurelio Vidmar đành hài lòng với những cú sút xa. Phút 52, Bozanic bắt ngờ ngoặt bóng và dứt điểm khá hiểm hóc nhưng bóng lại đi liếm xà ngang ra ngoài.

Bên kia chiến tuyến, ĐT Triều Tiên với những tình huống phản công chớp nhoáng đầy nguy hiểm phần nào khiến khung thành đối phương phải chao đảo.

Phút 65, An Chol Hyok phá bẫy việt vị thoát xuống nhưng cú sút cuối cùng của anh lại bị thủ thành Redmayne chặn đứng. Ngay sau đó, Kim Yong Jun lao vào đá bồi nhưng cũng thể nhân đôi được cách biệt.

Nửa thời gian cuối trận, với hàng loạt điều chỉnh nhân sự, U23 Australia không ngừng gia tăng sức ép nhưng trước lối chơi khá kín kẽ và tỉnh táo của đội bóng áo trắng, khung thành của Ri Myong Guk vẫn được bảo toàn cho tới khi trọng tài Đình Dũng nổi còi kết thúc trận đấu.

A loose translation is:-

An early goal from Pak Song Chol in first half helped North Korea to snatch a 1-0 win over Australia U23 in the opening match of the Millennial Anniversary of Hanoi, Football Championship.

Although there were not many stars in their formation, both North Korea and Australia entered the Cup pushing for a win.

With the early goal in first half over the less experienced representative players from the land of the Kangaroos, the North Koreans had little problem protecting their 1-0 lead to the end of the match.

Back to the main event, straight after the referee's whistle, both teams went into attack mode.

However, before the Aussie U23 got any notable chance, the Asian team scored.

At the 17th minute, from a freekick near the edge of the box, striker Pak Song Chol skillfully outsmarted the Aussie goal keeper Redmayne and put the North Korean team in front.

Unsettled by the early setback, the Australian U23 hurriedly pushed up in attack while the Koreans in their white shirts pulled back deep to defend their narrow lead and only created a few counter attacks.

At the 24th minute, from a freekick 20m away, Baden *(Chris)* Payne shot for the corner. The Korean goalie Ri Myong Guk was totally beaten but was saved by the post.

In the next three minutes, the Aussies had two decent chances but failed to score.

First was Rodney *(Tahj James Rodney Minniecon)* who dribbled into the box but missed the post by few inches at the 34th minute. Then came Okanya from a 7m sitter, but he failed to put the ball into the net.

In the second half, desperate to find an equaliser, the green-and-gold team quickly opened their attacks. In the 46th minute, Baden Payne invaded the box and shot but missed the post by few inches.

Facing the danger of losing control in midfield, Korean coach So *(Jo)* Tong Sop screamed at his players to increase possession and this succeeded somewhat by limiting the Aussie U23 from getting close to Ri Myong Guk's goal.

Unable to put the ball into the box, Aurelio Vidma's team had to settle for long passes and shots. In the 52nd minute, Bozanic suddenly found himself with a chance after a decent turn but the ball kissed the cross bar and went out.

The North Koreans on the otherhand had quite a few dangerous counter attacking chances that gave the Aussie goal keeper some hard time.

In the 65th minute, An Chol Hyok beat the off-side trap and entered deep into the Aussie box but his shot was stopped by Redmayne. Kim Yong Jun quickly charged in but he was unable to increase the goal advantage.

In the last quarter of the match, after subs and formation alterations, Australia U23 kept attacking and created non-stop pressure but the white shirt team's defence was very alert and tight, Ri Myong Guk's goal was protected all the way until the end of game came with the whistle from referee Đinh Dũng.

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
22nd. September 2010, 19.00	My Dinh National Stadium, Hanoi, Vietnam			20000

Vietnam..0 v. Australia U-23..2

half time, Vietnam..0 v. Australia U-23..2

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
	GK	Duong Hong Son						GK	Andrew Redmayne				
	DF	Le Phuoc Tu			X			DF	Luke DeVere				
	DF	Vu Nhu Thanh						DF	Matthew Jurman		53		
	DF	Huynh Quang Thanh						DF	Sebastian Ryall				
	DF	Dao Van Phong						DF	Daniel Mullen		8		
	MF	Nguyen Minh Chau						MF	Oliver Bozanic				72
	MF	Nguyen Minh Phuong						MF	James Brown				66
	MF	Le Tan Tai						MF	Mitchell Nichols				83
	MF	Nguyen Vu Phong						FW	Tahj James Rodney Minniecon	36			66
	MF	Nguyen Quang Hai				X		FW	Jason Hoffman	19			66
	FW	Nguyen Viet Thang				69		FW	Marko Ješić		35		
SUBSTITUTES													
	MF	Nguyen Xuan Thanh				X		MF	Scott Neville				66
	MF	Nguyen Trong Hoang				69		DF	Diogo Ferriera				72
								FW	Mirjan Pavlovic				66
								MF	Isaka Aongor Čerňák-Okanya				66
								FW	Christopher Payne				83
								GK	Jerrad Tyson				
								DF	Matthew Foschini				
								DF	Antony Golec				
Team Coach		Henrique Calisto					Team Coach		Aurelio Vidmar				
Referee													

The Vietnam squad consisted of:-
Goalkeepers - Duong Hong Son, Nguyen Manh Dung.
Defenders - Huynh Quang Thanh, Dao Van Phong, Vu Nhu Thanh, Nguyen Huy Hoang, Truong Dinh Luat, Tran Chi Cong, Doan Viet Cuong, Le Van Truong.
Midfielders - Phan Van Tai Em, Nguyen Minh Chau, Le Phuoc Tu, Tran Duy Quang, Nguyen Vu Phong, Nguyen Trong Hoang, Tran Duc Duong, Le Tan Tai, Nguyen Minh Phuong, Cao Sy Cuong, Nguyen Xuan Thanh, Pham Thanh Luong.
Forwards - Nguyen Quang Hai, Luong Van Duoc Em, Nguyen Viet Thang, Le Sy Manh, Pham Van Quyen.

match report from FFA

The Qantas Olyroos recorded a 2-0 win over Vietnam in their second match of the Four Nations International Tournament in Hanoi courtesy of first-half goals to Jason Hoffman and Tahj Minniecon.

Although originally scheduled to meet the Kuwait U-23 national team, a late fixture change saw the Qantas Olyroos line-up against the host natiion's senior national team in front of a vocal home crowd.

The Qantas Olyroos started the match at a frenetic pace, dominating possession and came close to scoring in the fourth minute when Mitch Nichols had his shot from inside the box well saved by the Vietnamese goalkeeper Duong Hong Son.

The first goal of the match was scored in the 19th minute after Tahj Minniecon dribbled around two defenders into the box and then passed to Nichols. Nichols then set-up Jason Hoffman who finished the move by slotting the ball into the goal.

The Qantas Olyroos lead was doubled in the 36th minute following a Vietnam free kick deep in the Australian defensive third. Nichols was on hand again to take advantage of the subsequent clearance and played a long pass to Minniecon on the right side who took full advantage of his one-on-one opportunity against the Vietnam goalkeeper.

The second half saw a rise in the tempo of the game as Vietnam lifted their work rate creating a number of good scoring chances in their bid to reduce the deficit. The Qantas Olyroos held out their hosts to record a well deserved victory.

After the match Qantas Olyroos Head Coach Aurelio Vidmar was much happier with the result and his team's performance.

"In Monday's match we didn't capitalise on the chances we created. Tonight we again created plenty of chances and in the first half we put away two very good goals," said Vidmar. "We played very well against a quality opponent and were rewarded for dominating the game. The players took on board the work they needed to do in the front third and executed the plan really well. I was extremely happy with the work rate of the players at the front and the back," concluded Vidmar.

In the other match of the tournament, DPR Korea defeated Kuwait 1-0 with An Chol Hyok scoring from the penalty spot. The win takes DPR Korea to the top of the table on six points, with Vietnam and Australia on three points and Kuwait on 0 points.

match report from DZ Times

The Vietnamese national squad lost 0-2 to the U23 Australian squad in the second game of the 1,000th Thang Long-Hanoi Football Cup 2010 at My Dinh National Stadium in Hanoi on Wednesday while North Korea defeated Kuwait U23 1-0, securing the top spot in the four-team tournament in the earlier game.

The Vietnamese side began the game with a changed lieup after a 3-0 win over Kuwait U23 in their opener. Nguyen Dinh Luat made his debut at the tournament, replacing defender Doan Viet Cuong from the beginning.

The Australians, with height-advantage, put more attacks from the start of the game in search of a goal and their players dominated the ball possession in the first half.

The visitors also created some good chances in the first minutes while the Vietnamese defenders made many mistakes. The Australian players exploited the mistakes from defenders Vu Nhu Thanh and Nguyen Phuoc Tu as Michael Hoffman opened the score for his team in the 19th minute.

Australia U23 continuously dominated the game after the goal and James Rodney broke the offside trap before beating goalie Duong Hong Son at the near post in the 36th minute.

In the second half, coach Henrique Calisto made some key changes when Xuan Thanh made his debut, replacing Nguyen Quang Hai in the first minutes of the second half. Nguyen Trong Hoang, who scored the goal for the Vietnamese side in the opener, replaced Nguyen Viet Thang in the 69th minute.

Although the Vietnamese players had the most possession over the second half and managed to create dozens of chances, the Australian side defence resiliently held out to keep a clean sheet. Despite good ball possession, the Vietnamese forwards failed to score.

In the earlier game on Wednesday, North Korea secured their second victory after beating Kuwait U23 1-0. An Chol Hyok scored the only goal for his team in the 71st minute.

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
24th. September 2010, 17.00	My Dinh National Stadium, Hanoi, Vietnam			200

Kuwait U-23..0 v. Australia U-23..0

half time, Kuwait U-23..0 v. Australia U-23..0

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
						START LIST							
	GK	Abdulaziz Marzouq						GK	Jerrad Tyson				
								DF	Antony Golec				
								DF	Daniel Mullen				
								DF	Diogo Ferriera				65
								DF	Matthew Foschini				
	MF	Jaber Al-Mutairi						MF	Scott Neville				
	MF	Abdullah Al-Refaie			71			MF	Isaka Aongor Čerňák-Okanya				
								MF	James Brown				
								FW	Jason Hoffman (c)				60
								FW	Marko Ješić				65
								FW	Mirjan Pavlovic				75
						SUBSTITUTES							
								GK	Andrew Redmayne				
								FW	Tahj James Rodney Minniecon				60
								MF	Oliver Bozanic				65
								MF	Mate Dugandzic				65
								FW	Christopher Payne				75
Team Coach		Al Shemmari					Team Coach		Aurelio Vidmar				
Referee		Phung Dinh Dung											

The Kuwait squad consisted of:-
Goalkeepers - Abdulaziz Fathi Kameel Marzouq, Sulaiman Abdulghafoor Abdellathif Mohammed Abdulghafoor, Ahmad Al-Khaledi.
Defenders - Abdulrahman Al-Enezi, Fahad M.Salem Al-Ansari, Mahdi Al-Mousawi, Hamad Ali, Ahmad Saad M.J. Al-Rashidi.
Midfielders - Mohammad Ghazi Al-Qattan, Adel Matar Khazal Salman Salem Al-Dhuwaihi, Omar A. Bou-Hamad, Abdullah Hashem Al-Refaie, Nasser Mubarak Al-Shaqqath, Abdulaziz Badi' Saleh Al-Saleemi, Jaber Jazza Al-Mutairi
Forwards - Abdulhadi Khamis Khudhair, Faisal Al-Enezi.
a further five players were listed but are unidentifiable - Saad N.Al-Nashi, Fahad B.Boduraid, Ahmad E.Abdullah, Saad S.Muhammad, Abdullah Naser Abdullah.

match report from FFA

The Qantas Olyroos have finished in third place at the Four Nations International Tournament in Hanoi after a 0-0 draw against Kuwait in the final match of the competition last night.

Qantas Olyroos Head Coach Aurelio Vidmar handed international debuts to goalkeeper Jerrad Tyson and defender Matthew Foschini who relished the opportunity to represent Australia for the first time.

The first half saw the Qatas Olyroos start slow but creating opportunities nonetheless, with their best chance of the half coming in the 12th minute when Mirjan Pavlovic dribbled into the box and set-up James Brown whose shot forced the Kuwaiti keeper into making a desperate save.

Pavlovic had a chance himself just before the half-hour mark, but the Kuwaiti goalkeeper produced another great diving save to again deny the Qantas Olyroos from scoring.

The second half saw the Qantas Olyroos control the majority of play, but could not finish the opportunities created which ultimately resulted in the scoreless draw.

Speaking after the match, Qantas Olyroos head coach Aurelio Vidmar, was again disappointed by his team's lack of finishing but was pleased with their overall performance at the tournament.

"After a slow start with sloppy passing we started to get some good moments in the middle of the first half where we created some chances," said Vidmar. "In the second half we dictated the play a lot more but the Kuwaitis made it difficult by putting ten men behind the ball. We still managed to create a number of good opportunities but our finishing wasn't good. Overall, considering this is the first time we have been together as a group, it has been a very successful ten days with plenty of positives that will lead us into our preparation for next years qualifiers for the London 2012 Olympic games," concluded Vidmar.

DPR Korea were crowned the eventual winners of the tournament after a 0-0 draw with host nation Vietnam confirmed their position at the top of the table on 7 points, with Vietnam and Australia equal on 4 points, but with Vietnam ahead on goal difference, and Kuwait on 1 point.

match report from Dan Tri

Áp đảo hoàn toàn về thế trận, tuy vậy U23 Australia bị đối thủ yếu hơn U23 Kuwait cầm hòa 0-0 ở lượt trận cuối cùng. Với 4 điểm/3 trận, đoàn quân HLV Vidmar hết cơ hội vô địch tại giải lần này.

Sau chiến thắng ấn tượng 2-0 trước chủ nhà Việt Nam, U23 Australia tràn đầy cơ hội lên ngôi nếu giành chiến thắng trước đối thủ yếu nhất giải U23 Kuwait. Diễn biến trận đấu không nằm ngoài dự đoán khi đoàn quân HLV Vidmar áp đảo hoàn toàn về thế trận suốt 90 phút.

Mặc dù vậy, trước đối thủ thi đấu cực kỳ chặt chẽ, các cầu thủ đến từ xứ chuột túi không có được những cơ hội rõ rệt. U23 Australia chủ yếu chờ đợi cơ hội từ các cú sút xa nhưng đều không trúng đích hoặc bị thủ môn Marzouq vô hiệu hóa.

Trong khoảng 20 phút cuối, U23 Australia được chơi hơn người, tuy nhiên các miếng phối hợp vẫn tỏ ra bế tắc và không thể một lần chọc thủng lưới đối phương. Hòa 0-0 U23 Kuwait đầy thất vọng, U23 Australia chỉ có được 4 điểm/3 trận và hết cơ hội vô địch (kém CHDCND Triều Tiên 2 điểm).

Với ưu thế về thể lực, U23 Australia dồn lên tấn công nhằm kiếm tìm lợi thế sớm. Đoàn quân HLV Vidmar kiểm soát hoàn toàn khu vực giữa sân, dù không đưa các trụ cột như Nichols, Rodney ngay từ đầu.

Phút 11, Ferreira tung cú sút xa nguy hiểm từ ngoài vòng cấm buộc thủ thành Marzouq phải tung người hết cỡ cản phá. U23 Kuwait hầu như chỉ phòng ngự co cụm và không tạo được đường lên bóng có nét nào trong khoảng 20 phút đầu.

U23 Australia tấn công liên tục nhưng họ không tiếp cận cầu được cầu môn đội bóng châu Á và trôngg chờ vào những cú sút tầm xa. Phút 29, James Brown ra chân nhanh từ ngoài vòng cấm, bóng đi căng và hiểm, tuy nhiên thủ môn Marzouq lại xuất sắc cứu thua cho U23 Kuwait.

Sau đó, Neville bật cao đánh đầu từ quả phạt góc của đồng đội đưa bóng đi vọt xà. Ép sân liên tục nhờ ưu thế về kỹ thuật và thể hình, tuy nhiên đội bóng đến từ xứ sở Kangaroo không tạo được nhiều cơ hội rõ rệt và chấp nhận hòa 0-0 sau hiệp đấu đầu tiên.

Bước sang hiệp 2, thế trận không có nhiều thay đổi, đội bóng áo vàng vẫn chơi chủ động và dồn ép U23 Kuwait về phần sân nhà. U23 Australia đan lát khá uyển chuyển ở khu vực giữa sân và phút 50, Okanya tung cú sút chân trái cực manh từ ngoài vòng cầm đưa bóng đi sạt xà ngang.

Sau khoảng thời gian dài bị ép sân, U23 Kuwait thoát khỏi vỏ bọc phòng ngự để dồn lên tấn công. Tiền vệ Mutairi thi đấy đầy năng nổ khi liên tục có những pha đi bóng táo bạo ở trung lộ khiến hậu vệ Australia lung túng, tuy nhiên "số 10" không có nhiều cơ hội để dứt điểm.

Việc U23 Kuwait đẩy cao đội hình tạo cơ hội cho đoàn quân HLV Vidmar có nhiều khoảng trống để tấn công. Phút 62, sau pha bật tường ăn ý cùng đồng đội, Hoffman bất ngờ tung cú sút chân trái cực mạnh đưa bóng đi vọt xà trong tình huống hàng thủ Kuwait có phần mất tập trung.

Phút 71, trong một pha phản công nhanh, Refaie đột phá rồi ngã trong vòng cấm sau pha va chạm với hậu vệ Australia. Trọng tài Phùng Đình Dũng cho rằng tiền đạo Kuwait ăn vạ rút thẻ vàng thứ 2 truất quyền thi đấu của cầu thủ này.

Chơi thiếu người, tuy nhiên các cầu thủ U23 Kuwait vẫn phòng ngự chặt chẽ và khoa học, không cho Australia cơ hội tiếp cận cầu môn Marzouq. Bên cạnh đó, đội bóng đến từ vùng Vịnh vẫn thường xuyên có được những pha phản công có nét khiến hàng thủ U23 Australia không dám dâng cao.

Chơi bế tắc và thiếu ý tưởng, U23 Australia không tạo được nhiều cơ hội rõ rệt và chấp nhận hòa 0-0 sau 90 phút.

A loose translation is:-

Although their formation was dominating, Australia U23 was held to a 0-0 by the weaker Kuwait U23 side in the final round. With 4 points from 3 games, Vidmar's team had no chance of winning the Cup this year.

After their impressive win against Vietnam, Australia U23 had the best chance of ascending to the throne if they could beat the weakest team of the tournament, Kuwait U23. The match followed as expected with Vidmar's army attacking and routing the opponent for the entire 90 minutes.

However, with the opponent's super tight defence, the players from the land of the marsupials did not have many clear scoring chances. Australia U23 mainly resorted to wishful long balls which were either not accurate or easily made ineffective by goal keeper Marzouq.

In the last 20 minutes, Australia U23 had a man advantage, but their passes were futile and they could not get the ball through to the opponent's net. A nil all draw to Kuwait was a huge disappointment, and Australia U23 had no further chance to claim this Cup (being 2 points behind North Korea).

Better in individual strength and fitness, Australia U23 quickly attacked looking for early advantages.

In the 11th minute, Ferreira made a dangerous shot from afar forcing goalie Marzouq to produce a great flying parry.

Australia U23 continued to attack but was unable to get the ball near the frame and they had to try long balls. In the 29th minute, James Brown had a quick shot from outside the box, the ball flew in dangeously fast but goalie Marzouq again saved his Kuwait team.

Soon after, Neville had a decent header from a corner kick but the ball went above the bar. Superior in both formation and technique, Australia continued to press in all areas of the pitch, but the players from the land of the Kangaroos had no more clear scoring chances and had go to the break with the 0-0 draw.

In the second half, the match stayed the same, the team in gold shirts continued to play a pressing game, holding Kuwait into their own half. Australia U23 played a very attractive free flowing passing game in midfield, and in the 54th minute, Okanya had a left foot blaster from outside the box but the ball again went above the bar.

Having resisted a prolonged period of pressure, Kuwait had a chance to break out for a counter-attack. Midfielder Mutairi proved his skill with a series of brave advances that caused some grief to the Australian defenders. However, the Kuwait number 10 had little chances of scoring.

When Kuwait tried to push up they left many holes for Vidmar's players to exploit. In the 62nd minute, while the Kuwait defence was struggling with a 1-2 passing sequence, Hoffman suddenly kicked a powerful lefty pushing the ball again over the bar.

In the 71st minute, in a rare but quick counter-attack, Refaie entered the box and fell after contact with an Australian defender. Referee Phùng Đình Dũng deemed the Kuwait striker was diving and sent him to the stand after giving him his second yellow card.

With a man down, Kuwait U23 continued to defend tightly and intelligently, limiting the chance of Australia getting near Marzouq's goal. Also, the gulf team had frequent break out counter attacks blunting the Australian plan for an attacking push.

Limited in their passing and creativity, Australia U23 did not have many clear chances.

2011

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
1st. June 2011, 16.20	Tohoku Denryoku Bigswan Stadium, Niigata, Japan	Rain	17.6C	23139

Japan U-22..3 v. Australia U-23..1

half time, Japan U-22..1 v. Australia U-23..1

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
1	GK	Shuichi Gonda					1	GK	Andrew Redmayne				46
5	DF	Yusuke Higa				90	3	DF	Ryan McGowan				
20	DF	Hiroki Sakai					4	DF	Matthew Jurman				
12	DF	Mizuki Hamada					5	DF	Aziz Eraltay Behich				
17	MF	Hiroshi Kiyotake					20	DF	Matthew Foschini				
8	MF	Kazuya Yamamura (c)				88	6	MF	Oliver Bozanic (c)				
6	MF	Daisuke Muramatsu					8	MF	Isaka Cernak				64
10	MF	Keigo Higashi				76	11	FW	Rocco Visconte				
16	MF	Hotaru Yamaguchi					9	FW	Jason Hoffman				88
15	MF	Genki Haraguchi				62	10	FW	Mitchell Nichols	4			
11	FW	Kensuke Nagai	45, 63				12	FW	Marko Ješić				75
SUBSTITUTES													
7	FW	Ryohei Yamazaki				62	18	GK	Dean Bouzanis				46
9	FW	Yuya Osako	84			76	13	DF	Sebastian Ryall				
14	MF	Kosuke Yamamoto				88	15	DF	Scott Neville				
22	DF	Yutaka Yoshida				90	7	FW	Golgol Mebrahtu				64
							16	DF	Jack Hingert				
							17	MF	Diogo Ferriera				75
							14	FW	Mirjan Pavlovic				88

Team Coach	Takashi Sekizuka	Team Coach	Aurelio Vidmar
Team Manager		Assistant Coach	Paul Okon
Referee	Martin Atkinson (England)	Team Manager	
Assistant Referee 1	Chen Shao-Xiong (Hong Kong)		
Assistant Referee 2	Zhou Junjie (Hong Kong)		

This was the first game in a "double-header". The main game was a Kirin Cup game; Japan..0 v. Peru..0 where the attendance was 39048

match report from FFA

A strong second half performance by the Japanese U-23 team handed the Qantas Olyroos a 3-1 defeat in the Kirin Cup curtain-raiser at the Tohoki Denryoku Bigswan Stadium, Nilgata, Japan on Tuesday.

The International friendly gave Qantas Olyroos coach Aurelio Vidmar a chance to gauge the readiness of the team before their upcoming 2012 London Olympic Games Asian Qualifiers.

The Qantas Olyroos had the perfect start to the match, scoring in the 4th minute. A quick counter attack from defence allowed Mitchell Nichols through on goal as he placed his shot beyond the reach of goalkeeper Shuichi Gonda.

The goal gave the Qantas Olyroos the advantage they needed as they controlled the midfield and created numerous opportunities in front of goal. However, their dominance in the first-half went to waste when Kensuke Nagai equalised for Japan at the stroke of half-time.

Having been outplayed by the Qantas Olyroos in the first-half, Japan began the second-half strongly. A change in strategy saw the Japanese team closing down and pressing the Qantas Olyroos every time they had possession.

Japan's effort almost paid off in the 50th minute when Hiroshi Kiyotake's shot hit the post. Dean Bouzanis who came on for Andrew Redmayne at half-time was left rooted to the ground as he watched the shot hit the crossbar.

However, Bouzanis was not able to prevent Japan from taking the lead in the 63rd minute. Defender Ryan McGowan headed the ball back to Bouzanis but his pass was intercepted by Nagai, who flicked his shot over the on rushing Bouzanis for his and Japan's second for the night.

Nagai then turned goal provider with five minutes to go when his inch perfect cross found the unmarked Yuya Osako at the edge of the 16-yard box to volley home the final goal of the night.

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
14th. June 2011,	Blacktown Olympic Park, Rooty Hill, Sydney, New South Wales	Wet and Windy		No public access

Australia U-23..6 v. Singapore U-23..0

half time, Australia U-23..2 v. Singapore U-23..0

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
18	GK	Dean Bouzanis				46	1	GK	Mohamad Izwan bin Mahbud				
2	DF	Sebastian Ryall				61	3	DF	Muhammad Safuwan bin Baharudin				
4	DF	Matthew Jurman				61*	6	DF	Muhammad Shakir bin Hamzah		35		58
5	DF	Aziz Eraltay Behich	90				10	DF	Muhammad Irwan Shah bin Arismail				
6	MF	Oliver Bozanic (c)				61**	21	DF	Mohamed Ruzaini bin Zainal				46**
8	MF	Aaron Mooy	14				2	MF	Muhammad Fazli bin Ayob				53
20	MF	Matthew Foschini				61*****	7	MF	Muhammad Faris bin Ramli		15		46
9	FW	Jason Hoffman	52	56			14	MF	Hariss Harun (c)				
11	FW	Rocco Visconte				61***	20	MF	Mohammad Firdaus bin Kasman				66
14	FW	Marko Ješić	55			61****	24	MF	Shahdan bin Sulaiman				
17	FW	Kofi Danning	6				9	FW	Muhammad Khairul Nizam bin Mohammad Kamal				46*
SUBSTITUTES													
1	GK	Andrew Redmayne				46	15	MF	Lou Zhenlun Eugene				53
2	GK	Mark Birighitti					4	DF	Mohammad Afiq bin Yunos				58
3	DF	Ryan McGowan				61	22	FW	Navin Nigel Vanu		49		46
19	DF	Sam Gallagher				61*	8	MF	Muhammad Nazrul bin Ahmad Nazari				46*
13	MF	Diogo Ferriera				61**	5	FW	Fairoz bin Hasan				66
16	MF	Mustafa Amini	69			61***	23	MF	Emmeric Ong Yu Min				46**
21	FW	Matthew Fletcher				61****	13	MF	Muhammad Zulfahmi bin Mohd Arifin				
15	MF	Scott Neville				61*****	16	MF	Ignatius Ang Yu Heng				
							17	MF	Safirul bin Sulaiman				
							18	GK	Jasper Chan Yu Hui				
							19	DF	Sheikh Abdul Hadi bin Sh Othman				
							30	GK	Muhammad Syazwan bin Buhari				

Team Coach	Aurelio Vidmar	Team Coach	
Assistant Coach	Paul Okon	Assistant Coach	
Referee	Kurt Ams	Team Manager	
Assistant Referee 1	Scott Edeling		
Assistant Referee 2	Murray Wilson		

This game was originally scheduled to be played on the 12th.June at Bluetongue Stadium, Gosford but because of heavy rain it was postponed.

match report from FFA

The Qantas Olyroos recorded a 6-0 victory over the Singapore U23 team in a training match held in wet and windy conditions at Blacktown Olympic Park this afternoon.

The training match was originally scheduled to be played on Sunday at Bluetongue Stadium, but due to heavy showers on the Central Coast the match was rescheduled to Blacktown Olympic Park today.

The Qantas Olyroos got off to the perfect start when Kofi Danning found himself unmarked, and with the ball, inside the penalty box in the 6th minute. Danning drove his shot from an acute angle into the goal giving the Singaporean goalkeeper, Izwan Bin Mahbud, little chance of saving.

Aaron Mooy doubled the Qantas Olyroos lead in the 14th minute after he dribbled into the box following a pass from Matthew Foschini. Mooy then neatly slotted home from close range.

The Qantas Olyroos continued to dominate for the remainder of the first half and Mooy had a very good chance to double his tally just after the half hour mark but his cracking long range shot was just marginally wide of the target.

Singapore's best chance to reduce the deficit occurred just before half time when their captain, Hariss Harun, hit a left footed shot which produced a fine save out of Qantas Olyroos goalkeeper Dean Bouzanis.

The second half saw the Qantas Olyroos continue to dominate possession and in the 52nd minute they extended their lead when Rocco Visconte set-up Jason Hoffman for him to side-foot into the goal from inside the six-yard box.

Three minutes later Marko Jesic added his name to the score sheet when he was played in from a quick free kick and then unleashed a 25-yard bomb into the top right-hand corner of the goal.

On the hour mark Qantas Olyroos Head Coach Aurelio Vidmar made seven changes to his team to rest some players and give others a much needed run.

In the 69th minute one of those substitutes, Mustafa Amini, scored a similar goal to Jesic's from general play after a good period of build-up. Amini's well-struck long range shot hitting the under-side of the crossbar before it billowed out the back of the net.

The scoring was completed in the final minute of the match when Aziz Behich took on three defenders down the left side, cut back inside and then carefully placed his shot into the goal out of reach of the diving Singaporean goalkeeper.

Speaking after the match, Aurelio Vidmar was not so concerned with the final score line, but more than happy with the solid hit-out in the lead-up to this weekend's Olympic Qualifier against Yemen.

"It was frustrating not to play on Sunday afternoon due to the rain, but full credit to the Blacktown City Council and Blacktown Olympic Park to host this match at very short notice," said Vidmar.

"Going into today's match it was very important for us to have a good work-out leading into our matches against Yemen. Although the score was a little flattering I was very pleased with the way we played and the intensity that we played at for the whole ninety minutes. It was also good to see some of the younger players who haven't played much with us to get some valuable game time and they all fitted in very well. We will now continue our preparations and really focus on the upcoming matches against Yemen," concluded Vidmar.

Olympic Games Asian Qualifier, Preliminary Round 2, 1st. Leg

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
19th. June 2011, 15.00	Bluetongue Stadium, Gosford, New South Wales (Central Coast Stadium)	Clear and Sunny	16C	2597

Australia U-23..3 v. Yemen U-23..0

half time, Australia U-23..1 v. Yemen U-23..0

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
1	GK	Andrew Redmayne					1	GK	Shukri Salem Abdullah Dahyah				
2	DF	Sebastian Ryall					3	DF	Nateq Hezam Qaid Rageh				
4	DF	Matthew Jurman					4	DF	Ebrahim Mohammed Ali Gehamah				
5	DF	Aziz Eraltay Behich					7	DF	Najib Ahmed Qaid Al Haddad				
6	MF	Oliver Bozanic (c)					15	DF	Ammar Abdullah Qaid Khalaqi				
7	MF	Isaka Cernak				46	8	MF	Yaser Yahya Mohammed Al-Shaibani				86
11	MF	Rocco Visconte				72	10	MF	Samer Hasan Sulaiman Yaseen		67		
12	MF	Marko Ješić					11	MF	Munassar Awadh Abdullah Ba Haj (c)		87		
14	MF	Matthew Foschini					9	FW	Mohammed Al Khadher Ahmed Al Anbari		69		
9	FW	Jason Hoffman	15, 90+3				14	FW	Aiman Saleh Abdullah Al-Hagri				70
10	FW	Mitchell Nichols	67	19		79	16	FW	Kameel Tareq Othman Mohammed				70*
SUBSTITUTES													
3	DF	Ryan McGowan					2	FW	Ali Abdulkarem Ali Qasem				86
8	MF	Aaron Mooy				46	5	DF	Amgad Abdullah Khairan Mohammed				
13	MF	Diogo Ferriera					6	MF	Abdulaziz Mohammed Ali Al-Gumaei				
15	MF	Scott Neville					12	DF	Mohammed Mahmood Ali Al-Muntaser				
16	FW	Mustafa Amini				72	13	MF	Ahmed Ali Mohammed Al-Dhaheri				70*
17	FW	Kofi Danning				79	17	FW	Mohsen Mohammed Hasan Mohammed				70
18	GK	Dean Bouzanis					18	GK	Esam Abdo Qasem Al Hakimi				

Team Coach	Aurelio Vidmar	Team Coach	Abraham Mebratu Gebreslassie
Assistant Coach	Paul Okon	Assistant Coach	
Team Manager	Simon Roberts	Team Manager	Abdulrahman Aqel Abdo Al-Bahri
Referee	Tan Hai (People's Republic of China)		
Assistant Referee 1	Mu Yuxin (People's Republic of China)		
Assistant Referee 2	Su Jige (People's Republic of China)		

match report from FFA

The Qantas Olyroos have defeated Yemen 3-0 in the first leg of their London 2012 Olympic Games Asian Qualification matches held today at Bluetongue Stadium in Gosford.

A double from Jason Hoffman and a goal from Mitch Nichols will give the Qantas Olyroos a comfortable lead going into the second leg of the tie to be played on Thursday at Ausgrid Stadium in Newcastle.

The Qantas Olyroos took only 15 minutes to open the scoring. From a Marko Jesic's short corner on the left, Matthew Jurman's header was blocked by a Yemeni defender. Ryall was on hand to pick up the rebound to cross the ball to Hoffman for an easy header from the goal-line into the empty net.

Playing in front of a home crowd of 2,597, Qantas Olyroos captain Oliver Bozanic almost doubled his team's lead in the 29th minute. His well taken free kick was only denied by the crossbar.

Vidmar made a tactical switch at half-time to bring on Aaron Mooy for Isaka Cernak with the Qantas Olyroos starting to create more opportunities on the right flank.

Mooy had a great chance to increase the Qantas Olyroos lead in the 57th minute but his shot hit the woodwork and bounced back into the arms of the Yemeni goalkeeper.

The Qatas Olyroos finally extended their lead ten minutes later when Hoffman squared the ball to Nichols, who tapped the ball past the Yemeni goalkeeper.

Yemen's captain Munasser Akiad Ba Haj was shown a yellow card late in the match for a late and dangerous tackle on Aziz Behich. After receiving treatment, Behich returned to the field during additional time and went on a 60 metre run with the ball on the left flank before providing a through ball to Hoffman. Hoffman's shot hit the post but he was on hand to collect the rebound to complete the scoring for the Qantas Olyroos.

At full time, Qantas Olyroos Head Coach Aurelio Vidmar was very pleased with his team's first competitive match together.

"I am very happy with a 3-0 result, it could have been more. We missed some really easy chances and their goalkeeper made some outstanding saves as well and now we'll hopefully go to Newcastle and finish it off," said head coach Aurelio Vidmar.

The Qantas Olyroos will face Yemen again at Ausgrid Stadium in Newcastle on Thursday 23rd June (Kick-off 6:30pm).
The Qantas Olyroos need to win these two matches on aggregate to progress to the next round of qualification which sees the twelve winners from Round 2 divided into three groups of four teams each.
The teams in each group will then play in a home-and-away format from 21 September 2011, to 14 March 2012, with the winner of each group directly qualifying for the London 2012 Olympic Games Football competition.
The three second-placed teams from the third round will clash in a playoff at a centralised venue from March 25 to 29, 2012, and the winners of this group will meet the representatives of CAF (Africa) for a berth in the London 2012 Olympic Games.

Olympic Games Asian Qualifier, Preliminary Round 2, 2nd. Leg

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
23rd. June 2011, 18.30	Ausgrid Stadium, Newcastle, New South Wales (International Sports Centre)	Dry	15C	3009

Australia U-23..4 v. Yemen U-23..0

half time, Australia U-23..2 v. Yemen U-23..0

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
18	GK	Dean Bouzanis					1	GK	Shukri Salem Abdullah Dahyah				
5	DF	Aziz Eraltay Behich					3	DF	Nateq Hezam Qaid Rageh				
2	DF	Sebastian Ryall					4	DF	Ebrahim Mohammed Ali Gehamah				47
4	DF	Matthew Jurman				62	5	DF	Amgad Abdullah Khairan Mohammed				
8	MF	Aaron Mooy	68	60			7	DF	Najib Ahmed Qaid Al Haddad				
14	MF	Matthew Foschini					15	DF	Ammar Abdullah Qaid Khalaqi				
6	MF	Oliver Bozanic (c)					6	MF	Abdulaziz Mohammed Ali Al-Gumaei				54
9	FW	Jason Hoffman	18, 31, 52				10	MF	Samer Hasan Sulaiman Yaseen				27
10	FW	Mitchell Nichols				46	11	MF	Munassar Awadh Abdullah Ba Haj (c)		5		
11	FW	Rocco Visconte					9	FW	Mohammed Al Khadher Ahmed Al Anbari				
12	FW	Marko Ješić		15		46*	17	FW	Mohsen Mohammed Hasan Mohammed		16		
SUBSTITUTES													
1	GK	Andrew Redmayne					2	DF	Mohammed Mahmood Ali Al Muntaser				
3	DF	Ryan McGowan				62	8	MF	Yaser Yahya Mohammed Al-Shaibani				27
7	MF	Isaka Cernak				46*	12	FW	Ali Abdulkarem Ali Qasem				54
13	MF	Diogo Ferriera				46	13	MF	Ahmed Ali Mohammed Al-Dhaheri				47
15	DF	Scott Neville					14	FW	Aiman Saleh Abdullah Al-Hagri				
16	FW	Matthew Fletcher					16	FW	Kameel Tareq Othman Mohammed				
17	FW	Kofi Danning					18	GK	Esam Abdo Qasem Al Hakimi				

Team Coach	Aurelio Vidmar	Team Coach	Abraham Mebratu Gebreslassie
Assistant Coach	Paul Okon	Assistant Coach	
Team Manager	Simon Roberts	Team Manager	Abdulrahman Aqel Abdo Al-Bahri
Referee	Abdulrahman Abdou (Qatar)		
Assistant Referee 1	Mohammad Jaber Dharman (Qatar)		
Assistant Referee 2	Fares Alshammari (Kuwait)		

match report from FFA

The Qantas Under 23's have defeated Yemen 4-0 in the second leg of their London 2012 Olympic Games Asian Qualification matches held tonight at Ausgrid Stadium, Newcastle.

The result contributing to the Qantas Under 23's winning 7-0 on aggregate over the two-legs and booking them into the third round of the qualification process for the London 2012 Olympic Games.

In front of a hometown crowd of 3,009, Novacatrian born and bred striker Jason Hoffman was the star of the show, netting a hat-trick to seal the points and ensure that Australia progressed to the group stage of competition.

The Qantas Under 23's opened the scoring in the 18th minute when Rocco Visconte swung in an accurate free kick into the box for Hoffman to head in.

As the match progressed, the Qantas Under 23's continued to press forward looking to extend their advantage. Midfielder Marko Jesic came close to scoring his team's second after a neat piece of build up play down the left side resulted in the ball falling to him, unmarked and inside the box, however his powerful first time shot ricocheted off the post and out of play.

Just after the half hour mark, the Qantas Under 23's doubled their lead when midfielder Aaron Mooy provided a perfect ball from the left side for Hoffman to again rise highest and notch his second goal of the evening.

At half-time, Qantas Under 23's head coach Aurelio Vidmar made two changes, opting to give time to Isaka Cernak and Diogo Rerreira and rests to Marko Jesic and Mitchell Nichols who were both sitting on yellow cards.

The changes did little to disrupt Australia's attacking intent, however, and with his confidence sky-high Hoffman wasted little time in the second stanza to complete his hat-trick. With Visconte again providing the cross from the right side, Hoffman slid the ball home from six-yards out to make the score 3-0 in the 52nd minute.

The scoring was completed in the 68th minute when Mooy capped an impressive performance by etching his name onto the score-sheet with a powerful finish from close range. Good work down the right side from skillful substitute Cernak opened the space for the Scottish based midfielder who drove an accurate shot into the bottom corner of the goal.

Speaking after the match, Vidmar was pleased his side put together a polished performance in the second leg after a comfortable first leg victory.

"From the beginning the objective was always to get through to the next round of qualifiers, and we achieved that," said Vidmar. "It wasn't an easy game and there was certainly a lot of fatigue out there towards the end of the second half. We took our chances well, and we very easily could have scored a couple more, but we got sloppy at times."

Loathe to single out any individual Vidmar was full of praise for the way the team combined as part of his overall tactics.

"I'm very happy with everyone. It a was difficult choice with the goal keepers but both Andrew Redmayne in the first leg and Dean Bouzanis tonight did everything asked of them. The fullbacks drive forward I thought was exceptional across both legs, and they did a great job setting up the attack. In defence they were able to press in and close down the Yemen attacks. They were well supported by the midfield who were always pushing to create something, and of course our forwards who finished their chances. (Jason) Hoffman's bagful of goals should give him confidence going forward."

The success of the tie was aided by everyone in the squad, and Vidmar had special words for those who weren't selected.

"I just want to acknowledge the efforts of all those players who didn't get much time or who weren't selected for a variety of reasons. To their credit they took the decision well, and all continued to train exceptionally well with a professional attitude. It was very impressive."

With plenty of football between now and the start of the next stage of qualification, Vidmar is realistic about the challenges facing his squad.

"The boys just need to keep playing regular football, and they will have match rhythm which will make everything easier. Overall I'm very pleased that we have got to the next stage," concluded Vidmar.

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
14th. September 2011,	Hindmarsh Stadium, Adelaide, South Australia			600

South Australian Select Xl..0 v. Australia U-23..0

half time, South Australian Select Xl..0 v. Australia U-23..0

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
1	GK	Takumi Takahashi				61	1	GK	Andrew Redmayne				46
2	DF	David Menechella				61*	9	DF	Sebastian Ryall				
3	DF	Michael D'Alosio				45	12	DF	Matthew Jurman				60**
4	DF	Michele Lastella (c)					17	DF	Aziz Eraltay Behich				
6	DF	Adam van Dommele				75	3	MF	Diogo Ferriera				60*
7	DF	Shane Tobias				45*	11	MF	Oliver Bozanic (c)				
8	DF	Ermias Haile				61**	13	MF	Matthew Foschini				60***
5	MF	Lee Robertson					16	MF	James Brown				60****
10	MF	Parys Okai					2	FW	Mitchell Nichols				60
9	FW	Calvin Mbarga				78	14	FW	Jason Hoffman				
11	FW	Scott Tunbridge					15	FW	Marko Ješić				
SUBSTITUTES													
	GK	Ben Moore				61	18	GK	Mark Birighitti				46
	FW	Adam Harris				61*	5	FW	Mate Dugandzic				60
		Todd McSorely				45	4	DF	Scott Neville				60*
	DF	Michael Papacharalambous				75	6	DF	Daniel Mullen				60**
	MF	Steven Grelli				45*	10	MF	Rhyan Grant				60***
	MF	Luke Klimek				61**	8	MF	Ben Kantarovski				60****
		Anthony Solagna				78	7	FW	Kofi Danning				

Team Coach	Joe Mullen	Team Coach	Aurelio Vidmar
Assistant Coach		Assistant Coach	Paul Okon
Team Manager		Team Manager	
Referee	Regis Queffellec		
Assistant Referee 1	Paul Cetranglo		
Assistant Referee 2	Curtis Wordsworth		

match report from FFA

The Qantas Australian Under 23's played out a nil-all draw with a South Australian select team in a training match at Hindmarsh Stadium on Wednesday night.

Qantas Australian Under 23's Head Coach Aurelio Vidmar was using the training match as part of his team's preparations for next Wednesday's AFC Asian Qualifier for the 2012 London Olympic Games against the United Arab Emirates.

South Australia's captain Michele Lastella almost opened the scoring for the hosts after six minutes when the ball sat up nicely for him on the edge of the area, after the Qantas Australian Under 23's failed to clear, but his volley flew narrowly over the bar.

Jason Hoffman went close a few minutes later for the Qantas Australian Under 23's, charging down a clearance from the South Australian goalkeeper Takumi Takahashi only to see the rebound spin past the post.

The Qantas Australian Under 23's controlled much of the game but struggled to break down a resilient South Australian defence.

On the half hour, Qantas Australian Under 23's captain Oliver Bozanic clipped the woodwork from 20 metres out with a powerful low drive that had Takahashi beaten.

Shortly after, at the other end of the field, South Australian striker Calvin Mbarga also saw his close range effort smack into the upright.

The scores were locked 0-0 at the break and it took almost 15 minutes before the first real chance of the second half was registered.

Marko Jesic pounced on a defensive error and fired a hard and flat effort goal bound but Takahashi was equal to the task.

Just after the hour Qantas Australian Under 23's coach Aurelio Vidmar made five changes and it was substitute Mate Dugandzic who was next to go close for the Qantas Australian Under 23's.

Dugandzic collected the ball 30 metres from goal, turned and hit a low, hard drive that just whizzed past the South Australian goal.

The best chance of the match fell to Hoffman in the second minute of injury time when the striker beat the substitute South Australian goalkeeper Ben Moore, but his effort from the edge of the area hit the post and bounced away from goal.

Qantas Australian Under 23's Head Coach Aurelio Vidmar was happy with the hit-out and what he saw from his team.

"It was good to have a solid run against good opposition tonight and we thank FFSA and Joe Mullen for the match," said Vidmar. "Although there were no goals I was pleased with some aspects of how we played and the opportunities we created, but we still need to work on a few things. Most importantly we have no injury concerns coming out of the game. We'll now have a good week of training before we face the UAE next week," concluded Vidmar.

Olympic Games Asian Qualifier, Preliminary Round 3

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
14th. September 2011, 20.06	Hindmarsh Stadium, Adelaide, South Australia	Cool and breezy	22C	2390

Australia U-23..0 v. United Arab Emirates U-23..0

half time, Australia U-23..0 v. United Arab Emirates U-23..0

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
1	GK	Andrew Redmayne					17	GK	Ahmed Mahmoud Mohamed Juma Ashoori		82		
3	DF	Sebastian Ryall					2	DF	Saad Surour Masoud Surour Baniyas				
4	DF	Matthew Jurman		90+2			3	DF	Mohamed Ahmad Ali Gharib Juma				
5	DF	Aziz Eraltay Behich		88			4	DF	Abdulaziz Hussain Mubarak Al-Balooshi				
2	MF	Matthew Foschini					14	DF	Abdelaziz Mohamed Sanqour Qambar Mubarak Al-Mazam				
7	MF	James Brown		54		70*	5	MF	Amer Abdulrahman Al-Hamadi				
6	FW	Oliver Bozanic (c)					10	MF	Theyab Awanah Al-Musabi				57
8	FW	Diogo Ferriera				70	15	MF	Habib Fardan Abdulla Fardan Al-Fardan				72
9	FW	Jason Hoffman					18	MF	Mohamed Fawzi Johar Faraj Abdalla				
10	FW	Mitchell Nichols					7	FW	Ali Ahmed Mabkhout Mohsen Omran Al-Hajeri				59
11	FW	Marko Ješić					11	FW	Junaibi		89		
SUBSTITUTES													
12	MF	Scott Neville					1	GK	Adel Mohamed Ali Mohamed Al-Hosani				
13	MF	Benjamin "Ben" Kantarovski					6	DF	Ali Salem Ahmed Faraj Al-Ameri				
14	DF	Daniel Mullen					8	MF	Mohamed Abdulrahman Ahmed Al-Raqi Al-Amoudi				59
15	FW	Rhyan Grant				70	9	FW	Ahmed Ali Salem Khamis Al-Abri				
16	MF	Mate Dugandzic				70*	12	MF	Mohammad Jamal Atiq Farhan Al-Falasi				57
17	FW	Kofi Danning					13	FW	Salem Saleh Musallam Salem Al-Rejaibi		72		72
18	GK	Mark Birighitti					16	DF	Mohammed Fayez Sbait Khalifa Al-Alawi				

Team Coach	Aurelio Vidmar	Team Coach	Mahdi Ali Hassan Rehda
Assistant Coach	Paul Okon	Assistant Coach	
Team Manager	Simon Roberts	Team Manager	Mohamed Obaid Mohd Qashoum Aldhaheri
Referee	Tojo Minoru (Japan)		
Assistant Referee 1	Nagi Toshiyuki (Japan)		
Assistant Referee 2	Nishio Hideaki (Japan)		

match report from the AFC

The UAE picked up what could turn out to be a priceless away point after the Gulf side held Australia to a goalless draw in the opening Group B match in the third round of AFC Asian Qualifiers for the 2012 Olympics on Wednesday.

Australia were hoping that home field advantage would inspire them to a winning start but it turned out to be a frustrating night at the Hindmarsh Stadium for the "Olyroos", who are being coached by Aurelio Vidmar who led local club Adelaide United to the final of the 2008 AFC Champions League.

As was expected, both teams attacked each other from the opening whistle with the UAE having the better of the early exchanges although Australia had two good opportunities to open the scoring in the 20th minute when defender Matt Jurman headed over the bar from an Oliver Bozanic corner and three minutes later when Bozanic's free kick found Sebastian Ryall's head, but Ryall's effort went wide of the goal.

The UAE had a good chance on the half hour when Ahmed Khail had a shot from distance two minutes later when his shot from close range found the back of the net only to see the goal denied as the assistant referee adjudged him to be in an offside position.

In the 35th minute the Olyroos' skipper, Oliver Bozanic, was next to have a great shot on goal from long range. Bozanic's well struck left-footed shot looked on target but was deflected away by a UAE defender for a corner.

Just before half time, Bozanic nearly turned from hero to villain when he mistimed a back pass to his goalkeeper Andrew Redmayne which allowed Ali Mabkhout to intercept and head towards a one-on-one with the Australian custodian. However, Bozanic recovered quickly and was able to make a telling last ditch tackle on Mabkhout to defuse the situation.

The second half saw Australia lift their game considerably and with the improvement came better scoring chances.

Just before the hour mark, Aziz Behich floated in a perfect cross from the left which found Mitch Nichols in the middle of the box but his resulting header was slightly off target.

The UAE had their best chance of the half five minutes later when Khalil dribbled into the Australian penalty box and shot low and hard to the far post. Redmayne responded with a fine reflex save dropping to his left and parrying the ball away from goal.

In the 68th minute, Nichols had another chance from inside the box, this time from a Marko Jesic cross from the left. This time Nichols diving header from close range was directed straight at the UAE goalkeeper, Ahmed Mahmoud.

For the remainder of the match both teams pushed hard for the winner but with no real chances forthcoming. In the end, both teams had to settle for a point each in what was a very interesting contest, albeit without any goals.

The UAE will look to build on the positive result when Olympic qualifying action resumes on November 23 when the Emiratis entertain Uzbekistan, who are the early Group B frontrunners after defeating Iraq 2-0 in Tashkent.

Olympic Games Asian Qualifier, Preliminary Round 3

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
22nd. November 2011,	Al Arabi Stadium, Doha, Qatar	Windy		200

Iraq U-23..0 v. Australia U-23..0

half time, Iraq U-23..0 v. Australia U-23..0

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
						START LIST							
12	GK	Jalal Hassan Hachim					1	GK	Mathew Ryan				
2	DF	Faisal Jasim Nafil Al-Manaa		90+3			3	DF	Sebastian Ryall				
3	DF	Ali Bahjat Fadhil					4	DF	Matthew Jurman				
5	DF	Faris Hassan Neamah					5	DF	Aziz Eraltay Behich		28		
7	DF	Saif Salman Hashim					2	MF	Matthew Foschini		45+1		
6	MF	Amjed Kalaf Mansoor Al-Muntafik				79	7	MF	Mate Dugandzic				
9	MF	Mohammed Saad Abdullah					8	MF	James Brown				
13	MF	Dhurgham Ismael Dawood Al-Quraishi					6	FW	Oliver Bozanic (c)				
17	MF	Nabeel Sabah Zghair Al-Hlaichi					9	FW	Jason Hoffman				71
10	FW	Amjed Radhi Yousuf Al-Janabi (c)				89	10	FW	Mitchell Nichols				
15	FW	Mustafa Ahmed Abdulameer				60	11	FW	Dimitrios Petratos				76
						SUBSTITUTES							
1	GK	Mohanad Qasim Kareem					12	DF	Daniel Mullen				
4	MF	Ahmed Issa Ibrahim					13	DF	Dylan McGowan				
8	MF	Hozan Ismael Mohammed Al-Naqshabandi					14	FW	Rhyan Grant				
11	FW	Ali Saad Mahmood Al-Lami				79	15	MF	Cameron Edwards				
14	DF	Hussein Ali Waheed					16	FW	Kofi Danning				76
16	DF	Mohanad Abdulraheem Karrar				60	17	FW	Adam Taggart				71
18	FW	Mostafa Mohammed Jawad Kareem				89	18	GK	Mark Birighitti				

Team Coach	Radhi Sh Swadi Al-Elayawi	Team Coach	Aurelio Vidmar
Assistant Coach		Assistant Coach	
Team Manager	Abduljabbar Hashim Hanoon	Team Manager	Simon Roberts
Referee	Andre El Haddad (Lebanon)		
Assistant Referee 1	Adi Ali (Lebanon)		
Assistant Referee 2	Hadi El Kassar (Lebanon)		

match report from FFA

The Qantas Australian Under 23's were held to a 0-0 draw by Iraq in their AFC Asian Qualifier for the 2012 London Games match played in Doha, Qatar last night.

In a match that was unusually played in very difficult, windy conditions in the Qatar capital, the Qantas Australian Under 23's dominated the majority of play and possession in the first half.

Qantas Australian U23's head coach Aurelio Vidmar handed qualifying campaign debuts to goalkeeper Mat Ryan and attacking midfielder Dimitrios Petratos.

Around the 15 minute mark, Mate Dugandzic had a good one-on-one opportunity against the Iraqi goalkeeper, Jalal Hachim, but unfortunately put his shot over the crossbar. Ten minutes later Sebastian Ryall had a great header that forced a fantastic save out of Hachim.

Just before the half-hour mark, Qantas Australian Under 23's defender Aziz Behich picked up a yellow card, his second of the campaign after collecting one against the UAE in Adelaide, which rules him out for the next match against Uzbekistan.

The Qantas Australian Under 23's had another three chances before the break but were unable to convert any of them.

In the second half both teams started to tire and the chances were not as forthcoming although the Qantas Australian Under 23's still created opportunities. James Brown had a good chance mid way through the second half but his shot skimmed over the crossbar.

After the match, Aurelio Vidmar was disappointed that his team was again unable to find the back of the net.

"Tonight we lost three points, we had very good chances in the first half and we should have had the game won by half time. We controlled the game for most of the ninety minutes and I couldn't fault the effort of the players, we just couldn't score a goal. The group is still very much open and we have an important match against Uzbekistan in five days time and we need to take three points," concluded Vidmar.

The UAE will host Uzbekistan in the other Group B match day 2 fixture tonight at the Khalifa bin Zayed Stadium in Al Ain.

The Qantas Australian Under 23's will now travel back to Australia to face Uzbekistan on Sunday 27th November at Parramatta Stadium.

With the loss of Behich and with Cameron Edwards returning back to England to join his club Reading FC, Vidmar has called in Newcastle Jets midfielder Ben Kantarovski and Melbourne Heart defender Curtis Good into the Qantas Australian Under 23's squad to face Uzbekistan.

The teams in each group of the third round of qualifying will play in a home-and-away format from 21st September 2011, to 14th March 2012, with the winner of each group directly qualifying for the London 2012 Olympic Games Football competition.

The three second-placed teams from the third round will clash in a play-off at a centralised venue from March 25 to 29, 2012, and the winners of this group will meet the representatives of CAF (Africa) for a berth in the 2012 London Olympic Games.

Olympic Games Asian Qualifier, Preliminary Round 3

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
27th. November 2011, 19.15	Parramatta Stadium, Sydney, New South Wales	Good	21C	2604

Australia U-23..0 v. Uzbekistan U-23..0

half time, Australia U-23..0 v. Uzbekistan U-23..0

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
1	GK	Mathew Ryan					12	GK	Kuvvatov Sanjar				
3	DF	Sebastian Ryall					2	DF	Akbarjon Ismatullaev				
4	DF	Matthew Jurman					3	DF	Abdukakhkhor Khodjiakbarov				
5	DF	Daniel Mullen					4	DF	Salim Mustafaev				
2	MF	Matthew Foschini					5	DF	Islom Tuhtahojaev				
7	MF	Mate Dugandzic		58			7	MF	Oybek Kilichev				
8	MF	James Brown		37		77	13	MF	Oleg Zoteev				58
6	FW	Oliver Bozanic (c)					16	MF	Jasur Hasanov				
9	FW	Jason Hoffman				72	18	MF	Fozil Musaev (c)				
10	FW	Mitchell Nichols					9	FW	Kenja Turaev				81
11	FW	Dimitrios Petratos				84	10	FW	Guryanov Nikolay				41
SUBSTITUTES													
12	MF	Bradley McDonald					1	GK	Akbar Turaev				
13	DF	Dylan McGowan					6	MF	Javlon Ibrokhimov				81
14	FW	Rhyan Grant				77	8	MF	Sherzodbek Karimov				
15	MF	Benjamin "Ben" Kantarovski					11	DF	Bobirjon Amanov				
16	FW	Kofi Danning				84	14	MF	Zohir Pirimov				58
17	FW	Adam Taggart				72	15	MF	Pavel Smolyachenko				
18	GK	Mark Birighitti					17	FW	Abdukhaliqov Temurkhodja				41

Team Coach	Aurelio Vidmar	Team Coach	Vadim Abramov
Assistant Coach	Paul Okon	Assistant Coach	
Team Manager	Simon Roberts	Team Manager	
Referee	Abdullah Mohamed Al-Hilali (Oman)		
Assistant Referee 1	Hamed Sulaiman Marhoun Al-Mayahi (Oman)		
Assistant Referee 2	Ghanim Salim Waleed Al-Bulushi (Oman)		

match report from the FFA

The Qantas Australian Under 23's have played out a 0-0 draw with Uzbekistan in their AFC Asian Qualifier for the 2012 London Games match played at Parramatta Stadium last night.

Head coach Aurelio Vidmar made only one change to the line-up that he used against Iraq with Daniel Mullen coming in at left back for the suspended Aziz Behich.

The match started with much promise with both teams trading opportunities in the opening half hour but none really troubled either goalkeeper.

In the 36th minute Uzbekistan looked to have broken the deadlock when a shot from Kenja Turaev found the back of the net but he was denied with the assistant referee raising his flag for offside.

A similar situation occurred early in the second half when a Mitch Nichols shot was blocked by the Uzbekistan goalkeeper Kuvvatov Sanjar. Dimitrios Petratos pounced on the rebound and tapped in from close range, but was also called for being in an offside position and denied the goal.

During the middle stages of the second half, Uzbekistan had a number of free kicks from outside the Australian penalty box, but none caused goalkeeper Mat Ryan any real issues.

Australia's best shot of the match came in the 77th minute when Nichols struck a stinging left footed shot from within the penalty box only to see it narrowly go over the crossbar.

The final moments of the match saw few chances created by either team. Uzbekistan seemed to be happy to take the point away from home.

Although the points were shared, Australian defender Matt Jurman did win the man of the match award for a fantastic defensive display.

After the match, Aurelio Vidmar was again disappointed at his team's failure to score.

"I thought it was a super effort. It was always going to be tough. This is the first time, bar a couple of players, that they have ever actually played a double date and had to do all the travelling. So some of them felt a little under the weather for the first few days. So they were carrying a little bit of fatigue going into this game. But I'm sure the Uzbekis were as well."

"It was a very good effort. Unfortunately we still can't hit the back of the net. Although when we did it was offside. So that might be something that we just need to do; stop doing tactical work and do a little bit more shooting. So hopefully our fortunes can change in that respect. We get into those areas in front of the penalty area time and time again. We did that against Iraq time and time again. We're probably lacking that little bit of extra finesse or the wall pass goes too long or the pass into the striker that instead of playing in front of him actually hits him in the neck. It's just those little small details in front of goal that have probably let us down over the last two games. But I couldn't fault their attitude, their effort and their willingness to play. It was a very tough game as you could see. But they kept pushing themselves right to the end."

"Our next match is against Uzbekistan early next year. It's going to be a tough away trip. However, I'm confident the boys will pull through," concluded Vidmar.

Olympic Games Asian Qualifier, Preliminary Round 3

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
5th. February 2012, 15.00	JAR Stadium, Tashkent, Uzbekistan	Very Cold	-12C	4527

Uzbekistan U-23..2 v. Australia U-23..0

half time, Uzbekistan U-23..1 v. Australia U-23..0

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
12	GK	Kuvvatov Sanjar					1	GK	Mathew Ryan				
2	DF	Akbarjon Ismatullaev				69	5	DF	Aziz Eraltay Behich				
3	DF	Abdukakhkhor Khodjiakbarov					2	MF	Matthew Foschini				
4	DF	Salim Mustafaev					7	MF	Mate Dugandzic				
5	DF	Islom Tuhtahojaev					8	MF	Benjamin "Ben" Kantarovski				
7	MF	Oybek Kilichev					3	FW	Sebastian Ryall				69
8	MF	Sherzodbek Karimov (c)				74	4	FW	Matthew Jurman				
13	MF	Oleg Zoteev	85	50			6	FW	Oliver Bozanic				
18	MF	Fozil Musaev					9	FW	Jason Hoffman				
9	FW	Kenja Turaev	27				10	FW	Mitchell Nichols		81		
11	FW	Abdukhaliqov Temurkhodja				37	11	FW	Rocco Visconte				76
SUBSTITUTES													
1	GK	Akbar Turaev					12	DF	Daniel Mullen				69
6	MF	Dilshod Rakhmatullaev					13	DF	Antony Golec				
10	MF	Javlon Ibrokhimov					14	FW	Mustafa Amini				
14	MF	Zohir Pirimov					15	FW	Diogo Ferreira				
15	DF	Bobirjon Amanov				69	16	MF	Isaka Cernak-Okanya				
16	MF	Jasur Hasanov		90+2		74	17	FW	Kerem Bulut				76
17	FW	Ivan Nagaev				37	18	GK	Mark Birighitti				

Team Coach	Vadim Abramov	Team Coach	Aurelio Vidmar
Team Manager		Assistant Coach	Paul Okon
Referee	Abdullah Dor Mohammad Balideh (Qatar)	Team Manager	Simon Roberts
Assistant Referee 1	Ramzan Saeed M.F.Al-Ramazani (Qatar)		
Assistant Referee 2	Taleb Salem H.A.Al-Marri (Qatar)		

match report from FFA

The Qantas Australian Under 23's hopes of qualifying for the 2012 London Olympic Games hang in the balance after losing 0-2 to Uzbekistan in their AFC Asian Qualifier for the 2012 London Games match played at the JAR Stadium in Tashkent today.

Due to extreme low temperatures the kick-off time for the match was moved from 8pm to 3pm, but with the mercury around -12C it was of little comfort to the players.

The Qantas Australian Under 23's started strong with Mate Dugandzic and captain Oliver Bozanic each having shots on target in the opening ten minutes.

But with a snow covered, frozen pitch making passing and touches difficult, it was never going to be a free flowing, technical game of football.

Uzbekistan took the lead in the 27th minute when Oybek Kilichev set up Kenja Turaev who hit a long range shot giving Qantas Australian Under 23's goalkeeper Mat Ryan no chance of saving.

Soon afterwards Jason Hoffman looked to have an equaliser for the Qantas Australian Under 23's but was adjudged to have scored from an offside position.

The second half saw both teams create opportunities at both ends but the quality of the build-up play and finishing was severely hampered by the pitch conditions.

Just after the hour mark Mitch Nichols also seemed to have netted an equaliser, but his attempt was denied after the referee blew for an infringement in the box in the lead up to the goal.

Oleg Zoteev sealed the result for the Uzbeks in the 86th minute with a sublime volley from outside the box which hit the underside of the crossbar and went into the net.

Later in the day UAE managed to hold on for a 1-0 win over Iraq, which kept Australia's slim hopes of qualifying for the London Olympic Games alive.

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
16th. February 2012, 20.00	Al Maktoum Stadium, Al Nasr Sports Club, Dubai, United Arab Emirates	Good		

Philippines..0 v. Australia U-23..1

half time, Philippines..0 v. Australia U-23..1

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
1	GK	Neil Leonard Etheridge					1	GK	Mathew Ryan				46
14	DF	Carlos Alberto Martinez de Murga					2	MF	Matthew Foschini		85		46*
3	DF	Jason Abbott Abantao Sabio					3	DF	Daniel Mullen		74		
5	DF	Juan Luis Guirado					4	FW	Matthew Jurman				46*
27	DF	Ray Anthony Pepito Jónsson (c)					5	DF	Aziz Eraltay Behich				46*
9	MF	Misagh Medina Bahadoran		57		73	6	FW	Oliver Bozanic				46*
29	MF	Jason Nicolas Maria Dantes de Jong		70			7	MF	Mate Dugandzic				46*
24	MF	Marwin Angeles				77	8	MF	Benjamin "Ben" Kantarovski				46*
12	MF	Ángel Guirado Aldeguer		85			9	FW	Jason Hoffman (c)	11			
20	FW	Denis Santos Wolf					10	FW	Mustafa Amini				
23	FW	Ian Bayona Araneta				46	11	FW	Rocco Visconte				46*
SUBSTITUTES													
8		Ruben Doctora Jr.				46	18	GK	Mark Birighitti				46
16	FW	Joshua Beloya McNally				73	12	FW	Sebastian Ryall				46*
25	MF	Lexton de la Cruz Moy				77	13	DF	Antony Golec				46*
							14	FW	Mitchell Nicols				46*
							15	FW	Dimitrios Petratos				46*
							16	MF	Isaka Cernak-Okanya				46*
							17	FW	Kerem Bulut				46*
							19	FW	Adam Taggart				46*

Team Coach	Hans Michael Weiss	Team Coach	Aurelio Vidmar
Team Manager		Assistant Coach	Paul Okon
Referee		Team Manager	
Assistant Referee 1			
Assistant Referee 2			

match report from Sid Ventura, Yahoo News.

Call it a good loss. Playing without Phil and James Younghusband, the Philippine Azkals weren't expected to put up much of a challenge against the Australia U-23 side in their friendly last night in Dubai, United Arab Emirates. The Aussies won the match, 1-0, after dominating the first half of play, but the Azkals didn't embarrass themselves and put up a good fight in the second half, holding steady on the defensive end while also creating scoring opportunities on the other side.

The Olyroos, as the Australian U-23 team is known, went ahead in the 11th minute courtesy of a header by Jason Hoffman following a cross from Aziz Behich. Azkals defender Luis Guirado actually tried to clear the cross via a header, but his effort was weak and the ball bounced straight to an unmarked Hoffman. Azkals keeper Neil Etheridge appeared to hesitate, as if waiting for an offside call since Aussie Oliver Bozanic was lurking behind him beside the post. But the assistant referee kept his flag down, and Hoffman's goal stood.

The Aussies displayed offensive fluidity for the rest of the half, with numerous short, crisp passes that put the pressure on the Azkals' side of the pitch. But interim team captain Ray Jonsson led a resolute Azkals defence that kept the lead from balloning. On the other side of the pitch, Ian Araneta and Denis Wolf had trouble creating opportunities against a solid Aussie back four. Wolf displayed good form in several counterattacking opportunites, but often the help just wasn't there. All told, the Olyroos controlled possession for 68% of the first half and had twice as many attempts as the Azkals. It said a lot about the Azkals' defence that the score remained 1-0 at halftime.

At the start of the second half, coach Michael Weiss pulled out Araneta in favour of Stallion Giligan's mainstay Ruben Doctora. The Azkals opened up on offense a little more, sending more men forward in an effort to nail the equalizer. Weiss then sent in Joshua Beloya for Misagh Bahadoran and Lexton Moy for Marwin Angeles in an effort to shake things up.

The Olyroos had a good chance to increase their lead with a free kick following a yellow card on Jason de Jong. But Etheridge came up with a gutsy save to keep the score at 1-nil. Later on, Wolf nearly equalized for the Azkals after gathering Jason Sabio's long throw-in and outmaneuvering two defenders to get within close range of the Aussie goal. But his effort lacked punch and was easily thwarted by Aussie keeper Matt Ryan. Beloya also had a chance two minutes before the final whistle, but his shot sailed over the crossbar.

The Olyroos are in the midst of participating in a qualifying stage for the London 2012 Olympics. In one of their group matches, they lost 2-nil to the same Uzbekistan U-23 side that trounced the Azkals, 3-nil, at the start of the latter's Middle East tour.

Olympic Games Asian Qualifier, Preliminary Round 3

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
22nd. February 2012, 17.30	Mohammed Bin Zayed Stadium, Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates	Windy	18C	28734

United Arab Emirates U-23..1 v. Australia U-23..0

half time, United Arab Emirates U-23..1 v. Australia U-23..0

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
1	GK	Khalid Eisa Mohamed Bilal Saeed					1	GK	Mathew Ryan				
2	DF	Saad Surour Masoud Surour Baniyas					2	DF	Dylan McGowan		84		
3	DF	Mohamed Ahmad Ali Gharib Juma					3	DF	Daniel Mullen		90+3		
4	DF	Abdulaziz Hussain Mubarak Al-Balooshi					5	DF	Aziz Eraltay Behich		90+4		
14	DF	Abdelaziz Mohamed Sanqour Qambar Mubarak Al-Mazam		64			7	MF	Mate Dugandzic				74
10	MF	Omar Abdulrahman Ahmed Al-Raqi Al-Amoudi	23				8	MF	Benjamin "Ben" Kantarovski				66
12	MF	Habib Fardan Abdulla Fardan Al-Fardan					10	MF	Aaron Mooy				88
15	MF	Rashed Essa Saeed Abdulla Al-Falasi				55	4	FW	Matthew Jurman				
9	FW	Ahmed Ali Salem Khamis Al-Abri		40		64	6	FW	Oliver Bozanic				
11	FW	Ahmed Khalil Sebait Mubarak Al-Junaibi				85	9	FW	Jason Hoffman				
13	FW	Khamis Esmaeel Khamis Zayed					11	FW	Rocco Visconte				
SUBSTITUTES													
5	MF	Haboosh Saleh Haboush Salbookh				64	12	DF	Antony Golec				
6	DF	Waleid Abdulla Jasem Abdulla Jasem Alyammhi					13	MF	Isaka Cernak-Okanya				
7	FW	Ali Ahmed Mabkhout Mohsen Omran Al-Hajeri				85	14	FW	Mustafa Amini				88
8	DF	Hamdan Ismail Mohammed Al-Kamali					15	FW	Diogo Alexandre Alves Ferreira				
16	MF	Mohamed Abdulrahman Ahmed Al-Raqi Al-Amoudi					16	FW	Dimitrios Petratos				74
17	GK	Adel Mohamed Ali Mohamed Al-Hosani					17	FW	Kerem Bulut				66
18	MF	Mohamed Fawzi Johar Faraj Abdalla				55	18	GK	Mark Birighitti				

Team Coach	Mahdi Ali Hassan Rehda	Team Coach	Aurelio Vidmar
Team Manager	Mohamed Obaid Mohd Qashoum Aldhaheri	Assistant Coach	Paul Okon
Referee	Lee Min Hu (Korea Republic)	Team Manager	Simon Roberts
Assistant Referee 1	Yang Byoung Eun (Korea Republic)		
Assistant Referee 2	Lee Jung Min (Korea Republic)		

match report from FFA

After the Qantas Australian U-23s failed to qualify for the 2012 London Olympics, Football Federation Australia (FFA) National Technical Director Han Berger is struggling to understand how the team was unable to score in five games.

“We played some good football again, but we haven't scored a goal and that is what counts,” said Berger.

Last night, the United Arab Emirates beat the Aussies 1-0 and the previous four AFC Asian qualifiers for the Olympics saw Aurelio Vidmar's charges lose to Uzbekistan 2-0, 0-0 draw also against the Uzbeks, another one goal loss to UAE at home and a 0-0 draw with Iraq.

“The disappointment of the result is enormous for the players and coaches as they gave everything to this campaign and it's a bitter blow that the Olympic dream is over,” said the former head coach of the Dutch Olympic team.

It's the first time in 28 years that Australia has not qualified for the summer games.

“Clearly we missed the potential of Tommy Oar, Brent McGrath and Matthew Leckie and that has affected the performances, but sometimes football puts up these circumstances and you have to react. We must be gracious in defeat and admit that the UAE are a very good team,” said Berger, who's role is to bring world best practice to the technical development of talented players and national youth teams.
A lone strike from UAE's Omar Abdulrahman midway through the first half was the major difference between the two sides at the Mohammed bin Zayed Stadium.
The Australian team created some decent chances, especially in the first half. Mate Dugandzic clipped the crossbar while Aaron Mooy and captain Oliver Bozanic each had a shot saved.
Australia had a decent share of possession in the second half, with Mooy blazing high and wide with around 10 minutes to go as the team's goal drought continued.
Uzbekistan were defeated 2-1 by Iraq in the other penultimate matchday fixture. The Uzbeks host now UAE in the final round with the winner set for automatic qualification to the 2012 London Games.

match report from SBS
The Olyroos needed a win to at least stay in the hunt for the play-offs involving the three second-placed teams in the Asian qualifying groups.
Once again, Australia was toothless in attack and has the ignominious distinction of failing to score a goal after five group games.
The loss left Australia bottom of its four-team group, trailing second-placed Uzbekistan by five points with one game to play against Iraq in Gosford on 14 March.
A win would lift it off the bottom and into third above Iraq, which upset previously unbeaten Uzbekistan 2-1 in the other penultimate round game.
The Olyroos created some decent chances, especially in the first half before UAE scored the only goal of the game.
Mate Dugandzic clipped the crossbar and Aaron Mooy and captain Oliver Bozanic each had a shot saved.
The only goal came midway through the first half, when goalkeeper Matthew Ryan was beaten at his near post by a speculative shot from near the goal line after a short corner routine.
Moments earlier Ryan had pulled off two good saves from a free kick and follow-up effort.
Unbeaten UAE, which now leads the group by three points, went close a couple of times just before the hour mark.
The home team was content to protect its lead in the final quarter and just launch the occasional attack.
Australia had a decent share of possession in the second half, but created few chances due to consistently poor delivery into the area from both set pieces and open play.
Mooy blazed high and wide with just over 10 minutes to go, as the Olyroos' painful goal drought continued.

Olympic Games Asian Qualifier, Preliminary Round 3

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
14th. March 2012, 19.30	Bluetongue Stadium, Gosford, New South Wales (Central Coast Stadium)	Good	20C	2071

Australia U-23..0 v. Iraq U-23..0

half time, Australia U-23..0 v. Iraq U-23..0

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
1	GK	Mark Birighitti					12	GK	Jalal Hassan Hachim				
2	FW	Rhyan Grant					2	FW	Waleed Salim Edwereag Al-Lami				
3	DF	Zachary Anderson					3	DF	Ali Bahjat Fadhil				
4	FW	Brendan Hamill					4	DF	Ahmed Ibrahim Khalaf				
5	DF	Craig Goodwin					6	MF	Dhurgham Ismael Dawood Al-Quraishi				
6	MF	Benjamin "Ben" Kantarovski					7	DF	Saif Salman Hashim		47		73
7	FW	Duke Kofi Appiah Danning				74	9	FW	Ahmed Jabbar Abbood Al-Majidi				31
8	MF	Jacob Pepper					10	FW	Ahmed Yaseen Gheni				65
9	FW	Christopher Harold					14	MF	Amjed Kalaf Mansoor Al-Muntafik				
10	FW	Mustafa Amini				46	15	FW	Mustafa Ahmed Abdulameer				
11	FW	Dimitrios Petratos				67	18	FW	Ammar Abdulhussein Ahmed Al-Asadi				
SUBSTITUTES													
12	MF	Joshua Risdon					1	GK	Saqr Ajail Salih				
14	FW	Tomas Rogic				46	5	MF	Nadeem Kareem Mohaisen Al-Magsoosi				73
15	FW	Sam Gallagher					8	MF	Jawad Kadhim Hantoosh				
16	FW	Mitchell Mallia				67	11	FW	Humam Tareq Faraj				65
17	MF	Nicholas Fitzgerald				74	13	FW	Abbas Qasim Zghair Al-Kaabi				
18	GK	Lawrence Thomas					16	DF	Mohanad Abdulraheem Karrar				31
							17	MF	Nabeel Sabah Zghair Al-Hlaichi				

Team Coach	Aurelio Vidmar	Team Coach	Radhi Sh Swadi Al-Elayawi
Assistant Coach	Paul Okon	Assistant Coach	
Team Manager	Simon Roberts	Team Manager	
Referee	Yuichi Nishimura (Japan)		
Assistant Referee 1	Toru Sagara (Japan)		
Assistant Referee 2	Toshiyuki Nagi (Japan)		

match report from FFA

The Qantas Australian U-23's have ended their AFC Asian Qualifiers for the 2012 London Games campaign with a scoreless draw against the Iraq U-23's at Central Coast Stadium.

On a balmy night at the picturesque bayside arena, an experimental and developmental Qantas Australian U-23's outfit couldn't quite manage to get the better of their rivals who proved stubborn opposition.

While both teams strung together some neat build-up play through midfield, neither side could find the killer pass or strike on goal. Indeed, the Qantas Australian U-23's goalkeeper, Mark Birighitti, and the Iraqi goalkeeper, Jalal Hassan Hachim, had relatively trouble-free matches with much of the contest played out in midfield.

The game had a lively opening with chances arriving at both ends in the first ten minutes of play. In the fifth minute, Iraq could, and perhaps should have capitalised on a defensive error by Australia, while soon after midfielder Mustafa Amini nearly opened the door for Chris Harold. Amini's pass was just a little too strong for Harold who worked tirelessly upfront throughout the match.

Kept at bay by the new Qantas Australian U-23's pairing of Brendan Hamill and Zac Anderson, the Iraq U-23's were forced to shoot from range and they did so in the 17th minute. Birighitti, however, watched the shot from Ahmed Yaseen fly high over his crossbar.

Chris Harold's pace was proving a menace for the Iraqi backline and his good work drew a foul in the 36th minute of play following a pass from captain Ben Kantarovski. Unfortunately for Vidmar's men, Dimitrios Petratos's resulting free kick failed to trouble Hassan Hachim.

Perhaps the best chance of the game came just two minutes before referee Yuichi Nishimura's half-time whistle. Ammar Abdul Hussein Ahmed fired a venomous shot at goal however was thwarted by an alert Birighitti who sprung into action to save the goal bound effort.

The second stanza was close to a carbon copy of the first, with both teams struggling to create many clear-cut opportunities to break the deadlock.

For Qantas Australian U-23's, substitute Tomas Rogic and Harold both unleashed efforts from low percentage areas but couldn't quite force Hassan Hachim into a meaningful save, while Abdulhussein Ahmed whisked a low, curling shot past the woodwork on in the 67th minute.

Unfortunately for the 2071 fans that had made the trek to Central Coast Stadium there were no goals to witness, with referee Nishimura calling time on the game after four minutes of added play.

Qantas Australian U-23's Head Coach, Aurelio Vidmar, was pleased with the effort of his players considering the limited preparation.

"I thought there were some really strong performances from our goalkeeper, back four, and central midfielders tonight. Chris Harold also did quite a good job under very tough circumstances. It was never going to be an easy match. So considering we had only two light sessions and it was the first time this group had played together, I thought we did a decent job," concluded Vidmar.

Although the AFC tournament was for U-22 players, Football Federation Australia took the decision to field the Qantas Young Socceroos (U-20 players) in the competition as part of their preparations for the AFC U-19 Championship which was held in the United Arab Emirates in November 2012, and also served as the qualifiers for the 2013 FIFA U-20 World Cup which was held in Turkey June/July 2013.
The AFC U-22 Competition replaced the Olympic Football Tournament Asian Qualifiers

AFC U-22 Championship, Qualifying round

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
5th. July 2012, 17.30	Riau Main Stadium, Pekanbaru, Indonesia	Hot and humid	34C	45000

Indonesia U-22..0 v. Australia U-22..1

half time, Indonesia U-22..0 v. Australia U-22..1

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
45	GK	Aji Saka					18	GK	Nicholas Munro				
3	DF	Dany Saputra				66	2	DF	Joshua Brillante				
4	DF	Syaiful Indra Cahya					3	DF	Connor Chapman				
5	DF	Nurmufid Fastabiqul Khoirot					5	DF	Corey Brown				
25	DF	Agus Nova Wiantara					6	DF	Reece Caira		45+1		85
9	MF	Hendra Adi Bayauw					16	DF	Giancarlo Gallifuoco		15		81
14	MF	Rasyid Bakrie					10	MF	Lefteris "Terry" Antonis (c)				
31	MF	Syahroni					42	MF	Benjamin Garuccio				
10	FW	Andik Vermansyah (c)				87	8	FW	Jake Barker-Daish				
18	FW	Agung Supriyanto					11	FW	Jesse Makarounas				
47	FW	Fandi Eko Utomo				52	14	FW	Anthony Proia	45+2			72
SUBSTITUTES													
1	GK	Muhammad Ridwan					12	GK	Aaron Lennox				
34	GK	Dhika Bayangkara					30	GK	Jack Duncan				
36	DF	Novrianto					15	MF	Nicholas "Nick" Fitzgerald				
44	DF	Bima Ragil Satria Rakasivvi					17	MF	Mitch Cooper				
6	MF	Dio Permana					21	MF	Brandon O'Neill				85
13	MF	Kurniawan Karman				52	23	MF	Yianni Perkatis				
15	MF	Mustaid Billah				87	41	MF	Riley Woodcock				
8	FW	Ridwan Awaludin					43	MF	Luke O'Dea				72
21	FW	Yosua Pahabol					13	FW	Daniel Petkovski				81
27	FW	Achmad Faris					19	FW	Jason Geria				
28	FW	Safrudin Tahar				66	20	FW	James Donachie				
30	FW	Wahyu Teguh Saputro					39	FW	David Vrankovic				

Team Coach	Aji Santoso	Team Coach	Paul Okon
Assistant Coach	Widodo Cahyono Putro	Assistant Coach	
Team Manager	Roso Daras	Team Manager	Simon Roberts
Referee	Tan Hai (People's Republic of China)		
Assistant Referee 1	Mu Yuxin (People's Republic of China)		
Assistant Referee 2	Deniye Gedara Palitha Parakkrama Hemathunga (Sri Lanka)		

Match report from Football Federation Australia

An Anthony Proia goal just before half time has given the Qantas Young Socceroos a 1-0 win over host nation Indonesia in front of a capacity crowd of 45,000 in their opening match of the AFC U-22 Championship Qualifiers played in Pekanbaru.

Going into the tournement, Qantas Young Socceroos Head Coach Paul Okon had to make two changes to his squad with Luke O'Dea coming in for the injured Adam Taggart and David Vrankovic replacing Curtis Good. Terry Antonis was given the honour of captaining Australia for the first time.

The Qantas Young Socceroos dominated possession for the opening fifteen minutes and created a couple of opportunities but were unable to convert.

Midway through the half Ben Garuccio made a run down the left, and crossed into the box for Anthony Proia who was unable to finish cleanly.

The Indonesians began to get more possession as the match progressed and were dangerous on the break. They forced the Qantas Young Socceroos defenders to work hard and forced goal keeper Nick Munro into making a couple of great saves.

Deep into additional time of the first half, a corner from Garrucio was put to the far post, which was met perfectly by Proia who headed home to give the Qantas Young Socceroos the lead going into the break.

The second half was a hard slog for both teams as the heat and humidity took its toll. The Indonesians put a lot of pressure on in the final fifteen minutes with a number of dangerous shots on goal, but some great defending and goalkeeping from Nick Munro allowed the Qantas Young Socceroos to hold on for an important opening win.

Speaking after the match, Qantas Young Socceroos Head Coach Paul Okon was very happy with his team's opening result of the tournament.

"It was a great performance in difficult conditions against a good opponent in front of a huge home crowd. It was also a fantastic experience for our players to play in front of a parochial full stadium," Okon said.

"The players played some very good football and we probably could have got a few more goals. The Indonesian team are a very good team and we were playing against players 2-3 years older. WE now turn our focus to the next game and are looking to build on this result and put in another solid performance," Okon concluded.

In other matches Japan beat Macau 6-0 and Singapore defeated Timor Leste 2-1.

The Qantas Young Socceroos will play their next match against Macau on Saturday 7 July followed by matches against Singapore (10 July), Timor Leste (12 July) and Japan (15 July).

The two top teams from Group E and the best third placed team of all groups (total 15) will then progress to the AFC U-22 Championship which will be played in January 2014.

AFC U-22 Championship, Qualifying round

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
7th. July 2012, 16.00	Kaharudin Nasution Stadium, Pekanbaru, Indonesia	Sunny	32C	560

Macau U-22..2 v. Australia U-22..3

half time, Macau U-22..1 v. Australia U-22..3

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
1	GK	Fai Ho Man					30	GK	Jack Duncan				
6	DF	Chan Man					17	MF	Mitch Cooper				
14	DF	Pang Chi Wai		81			21	MF	Brandon O'Neill				79
15	DF	Lei Tin U					23	MF	Yianni Perkatis				
9	MF	Ho Pereira Henrique Afonso					41	MF	Riley Woodcock	2			
13	MF	Tang Hou Fai					43	MF	Luke O'Dea	7, 13			
21	MF	Eduardo Antonio Pedro Tong				59	8	FW	Jake Barker-Daish				46
8	FW	Kaewchang Capelo Iuri				68	13	FW	Daniel Petkovski				
11	FW	Leong Ka Hang	78				19	FW	Jason Geria				
18	FW	Pang Chi Hang				90+3	20	FW	James Donachie (c)				
19	FW	Vinicio De Jesus Morais Alves	19				39	FW	David Vrankovic				
SUBSTITUTES													
2	DF	Chan In Choi					2	DF	Joshua Brillante				
3	MF	Chao Wai Fong				90+3	3	DF	Connor Chapman				
5	DF	Lau Pak Meng					5	DF	Corey Brown				
7	MF	Sio Ka Un				68	6	DF	Reece Caira				
10	MF	Loi Wai Hong				59	10	MF	Terry Antonis				
12	DF	Lei Ka Him					11	FW	Jesse Makarounas				
16	MF	Leong Keng Pang					12	GK	Aaron Lennox				
17	MF	Lei Chi Kuan					14	FW	Anthony Proia				46
22	GK	Ngan Kai Iek					15	MF	Nick Fitzgerald				
							16	DF	Giancarlo Gallifuoco				
							18	GK	Nicholas Munro				
							42	MF	Benjamin Garuccio				

Team Coach	Leung Sui Wing	Team Coach	Paul Okon
Assistant Coach		Assistant Coach	
Team Manager		Team Manager	Simon Roberts
Referee	Win Cho (Myanmar)		
Assistant Referee 1	Aung Moe (Myanmar)		
Assistant Referee 2	Muhammad Kamil Bin (Malaysia)		

match report from FFA

The Qantas Young Socceroos have defeated Macau 3-2 in their second match of the AFC U-22 Championship Qualifiers in Pekanbaru.

Qantas Young Socceroos Head Coach Paul Okon made ten changes to the line-up from the team that played Indonesia in the opening match with Jake Barker-Daish the only player to start both matches. James Donachie was handed the captain's armband.

The afternoon match kicked off in oppressive conditions with extremely high humidity and a very bumpy pitch.

The Qantas Young Socceroos got off to the perfect start when Riley Woodcock scored in the second minute with an easy tap in.

Luke O'Dea doubled the Qantas Young Socceroos lead five minutes later when his shot found the back of the net after being played in by Jake Barker-Daish.

O'Dea completed his brace in the 13th minute when he headed home Riley Woodcock's cross from the left to give the Qantas Young Socceroos a commanding 3-0 lead.

Macau pegged a goal back in the 19th minute following a fast break through the centre of the pitch by striker De Jesus Morias Alves Vinicio. Qantas Young Socceroos goal keeper Jack Duncan came out to meet the ball but was caught out of position and Vinicio calmly put the ball over Jack Duncan into the goal.

Through the opening forty-five minutes Macau played very deep inside their half making it hard for the Qantas Young Socceroos to find space when going forward.

The second half saw Macau continue to be dogged in defence with the Qantas Young Socceroos trying to break them down with wave after wave of attack.

Macau surprised the Qantas Young Socceroos in the 77th minute when they scored their second goal through captain Leong Ka Hang who was able to capitalise on another break and put his shot beyond the reach of the outstretched Jack Duncan.

The Qantas Young Socceroos didn't lose their composure and had a great chance to extend their lead just before full-time when Mitch Cooper delivered the ball to Anthony Proia in the box and hit his shot into the right-hand post.

Qantas Young Socceroos Head Coach Paul Okon was happy with the result, but disappointed that his team conceded two goals after taking the earlier lead. "It was obviously a good start scoring three goals in the first fifteen minutes," said Okon. "We found it difficult to break Macau down when from the outset their only intention was to sit deep and defend. It was disappointing to concede two goals on the only two counter attacks that Macau had. This will serve as a valuable lesson moving forward and playing in Asia," concluded Okon.

In the other matches japan defeated Singapore 3-1 and Indonesia were 2-0 winners over Timor Leste.

AFC U-22 Championship, Qualifying round

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
10th. July 2012, 16.00	Kaharudin Nasution Stadium, Pekanbaru, Indonesia	Cloudy	31C	1378

Singapore U-22..0 v. Australia U-22..0

half time, Singapore U-22..0 v. Australia U-22..0

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
24	GK	Muhammad Syazwan bin Buhari					12	GK	Aaron Lennox				
2	DF	Muhammad Al-Qaasimy bin Abdul Rahman (c)					2	DF	Joshua Brillante				
4	DF	Delwinder Singh					3	DF	Connor Chapman				
5	DF	Ali Hudzaifi bin Muhammad Yusof		47			5	DF	Corey Brown		18		
15	DF	Sheikh Abdul Hadi bin Sh Othman					6	DF	Reece Caira				46
10	MF	Muhammad Farris bin Ramli					16	DF	Giancarlo Gallifuoco				
11	MF	Ignatius Ang Yu Heng				72	10	MF	Lefteris "Terry" Antonis (c)			42	
12	MF	Shamil Sharif					42	MF	Benjamin Garuccio		89		
13	MF	Muhammed Aqhari bin Abdullah					8	FW	Jake Barker-Daish				46*
23	MF	Teo Wei Jin Basil Gerard				78	11	FW	Jesse Makarounas				
46	FW	Ahmad Suhaimi bin Mohamed Yasin				53	14	FW	Anthony Proia		83		57
SUBSTITUTES													
1	GK	Muhammad Neezam bin Abdul Aziz					18	GK	Nicholas Munro				
30	GK	Mohammad Al-Faiz bin Ishak					30	GK	Jack Duncan				
6	DF	Madhu Mohana				72	15	MF	Nicholas "Nick" Fitzgerald				46*
8	MF	Samuel Benjamin S/O Nadarajah					17	MF	Mitch Cooper				
9	MF	Safirul bin Sulaiman					21	MF	Brandon O'Neill				
18	MF	Loo Zhan Quan Gary					23	MF	Yianni Perkatis				46
20	MF	Muhammad Farhan bin Rahmat			87	78	41	MF	Riley Woodcock				
27	MF	Amy Recha Pristifana				53	43	MF	Luke O'Dea				83
7	FW	Sufianto bin Salleh					13	FW	Daniel Petkovski				
							19	FW	Jason Geria				
							20	FW	James Donachie				
							39	FW	David Vrankovic				

Team Coach	Mike Wong Mun Heng	Team Coach	Paul Okon
Assistant Coach		Assistant Coach	
Team Manager	Visakan S/O Subramanian (Balabaskaran)	Team Manager	Simon Roberts
Referee	Salah Mohamed Noor Shaikh Abbas Alabbasi (Bahrain)		
Assistant Referee 1	Sayed Jalal Mahfoodh Alawi Mohamed (Bahrain)		
Assistant Referee 2	Abu Bakar Salim Mahad Al-Amri (Oman)		

note that S/O is an abbreviation for "son of"

match report from FFA

The Qantas Young Socceroos have been held to a scoreless draw by Singapore in their third match of the AFC U-22 Championship Qualifiers in Pekanbaru, Indonesia.

Again Qantas Young Socceroos head coach Paul Okon made a number of changes to the starting line-up to rest his players due to the grueling schedule of five matches in eleven days.

The first half was a dour struggle played in hot and overcast conditions. Singapore played very deep and made it difficult for the Qantas Young Socceroos to create any meaningful scoring opportunities.

Just before half-time, the Qantas Young Socceroos were dealt a significant blow when captain Terry Antonis was sent off in dubious circumstances.

Antonis seemed to be pushed by a Singaporean player, but the referee was on the opposite side of the pitch, and didn't see the incident but turned around and sent the Australian off for no discernible reason.

With a man down going into the break, Paul Okon was forced to reshuffle his formation making two changes at half-time with Jake Barker-Daish and Reece Caira replaced by Nick Fitzgerald and Yianni Perkatis.

The second half saw the game start to open up and Fitzgerald immediately made an impact creating attacking runs and scoring opportunities.

The Qantas Young Socceroos dominated the majority of proceedings, but were unable to get a clear shot on goal due to the stoic Singaporean defence.

With three minutes remaining in regulation time, Singaporean substitute Muhammad Farhan Bin Rahmat was sent off for a late tackle on Fitzgerald.

From then on the Singaporean players tried to delay the game which prompted the Bahraini referee to signal six minutes of additional time.

With the player numbers back to being equal, the Qantas Young Socceroos made a final push to pressure the opposition, but again were unable to find a goal.

Okon was frustrated by the manner in which the match was played but focused on the challenge of the next match against Timor Leste.

"As expected again we came up against a team that only had the intention to sit deep and limit any possible scoring opportunities from us," said Okon. "On a bumpy pitch it was difficult to play the type of football we wanted to and it was disappointing to lose Terry Antonis, which made the task even harder. We now turn our attention to the next match, our goal coming here was to qualify for the finals of this competition and we are working hard to achieve that," concluded Okon.

In the other matches host nation Indonesia defeated Macau 2-1 and Japan narrowly defeated timor Leste 1-0.

AFC U-22 Championship, Qualifying round

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
12th. July 2012, 16.00	Riau Main Stadium, Pekanbaru, Indonesia	Sunny	31C	2198

Timor Leste U-22..0 v. Australia U-22..3

half time, Timor Leste U-22..0 v. Australia U-22..1

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
						START LIST							
12	GK	Ramos Saozinho Ribeiro Maxanches					18	GK	Nicholas Munro				
2	DF	Raimundo Jose do Rego Sarmento					2	DF	Joshua Brillante				
3	DF	Agostinho					3	DF	Connor Chapman (c)				
4	DF	Ramon de Lima Saro					5	DF	Corey Brown	87, 90+2			
13	DF	Diogo Santos Rangel					16	DF	Giancarlo Gallifuoco				85
14	MF	Francisco da Costa Sarmento				75	15	MF	Nicholas "Nick" Fitzgerald		46		
17	MF	Fidel dos Santos de Araujo					21	MF	Brandon O'Neill				
9	FW	Jose Carlos da Fonseca					42	MF	Benjamin Garuccio		56		76
16	FW	Januario				67	43	MF	Luke O'Dea	40			79
18	FW	Eujebio Pereira				84	8	FW	Jake Barker-Daish				
19	FW	Marcos da Conceicao Jesus					20	FW	James Donachie				
						SUBSTITUTES							
1	GK	Juliao Monteiro					11	FW	Jesse Makarounas				
5	DF	Theodoro Soares Bau					12	GK	Aaron Lennox				
6	FW	Oligario Barreto Hornai Pereira B					13	FW	Daniel Petkovski				
7	MF	Paulo Helber Rosa Ribeiro					14	FW	Anthony Proia				79
8	MF	Ezequiel dos Santos Fernandes					17	MF	Mitch Cooper				85
10	MF	Nicolao Higinio Baptista Soares F				75	19	FW	Jason Geria				
11	FW	Henrique Cruz				84	23	MF	Yianni Perkatis				
15	DF	Adelino Trindade Coelho M de Oliveira					30	GK	Jack Duncan				
20	DF	Jose Martins do Rego					39	FW	David Vrankovic				
21	FW	Frangcyatma Alves Ima Kefi				67	41	MF	Riley Woodcock				76
22	GK	Francisco Ronaldo Exposto Gusmao											
23	DF	Carlos Gusmao Madeira Freitas											

Team Coach	Norio Tsukitate	Team Coach	Paul Okon
Assistant Coach		Assistant Coach	
Team Manager	Orlando Marques Henriques Mendes	Team Manager	Simon Roberts
Referee	Yaqoob Said Abdullah Abdul Baqi (Oman)		
Assistant Referee 1	Davoud Rafatisajedi (Iran)		
Assistant Referee 2	Aung Moe (Myanmar)		

match report from FFA

The Qantas Young Socceroos defeated Timor Leste 3-0 to move into second place of Group E at the AFC U-22 Championship Qualifiers in Pekanbaru, Indonesia on Wednesday night.

A first half goal from Luke O'Dea and two late goals from Jake Barker-Daish helped establish the win that has put the Qantas Young Socceroos within a point of guaranteeing qualification for the AFC U-22 Championships, as they head into their final match against Japan on Sunday.

With Terry Antonis serving a one-match suspension for receiving a red-card against Singapore and Reece Caira unavailable for selection through illness, head coach Paul Okon made minimal changes to his line-up from the one that faced Singapore on Tuesday evening, with Connor Chapman taking ther captain's armband, a role he also held with Qantas Joeys at the 2011 FIFA U-17 World Cup in Mexico.

The first half saw plenty of end-to-end football with both teams sharing possession and Timor Leste going one-on-one and pressing hard when the Qantas Young Socceroos had the ball.

The opening goal came five minutes before half time when Jake Barker-Daish made a run through midfield and played in Luke O'Dea. O'Dea beat two defenders on the edge of the box and hit a right-footed strike with aplomb past the Indonesia goalkeeper Ramos Saozinho Ribeiro Maxanches.

Timor Leste had a good chance to equalise a minute later from a corner with a free header that forced a great save on the line from Qantas Young Socceroos keeper Nick Munro.

Australia had a gilt-edged chance to extend their lead just before the half time whistle when Barker-Daish had a one-on-one opportunity but Maxanches was able to push his shot wide.

The second half saw Timor Leste become dangerous in the early exchanges creating a number of equalising chances but unable to convert.

The Qantas Young Socceroos were dealt a blow in the 55th minute when in-form midfielder Ben Garuccio received his second yellow card of the tournament, which has now ruled him out of the final match against Japan.

Midway through the second half Okon made two substitutions in a bid to extend the lead with Garuccio and O'Dea replaced by Riley Woodcock (77th minute) and Anthony Proia (79th minute) and later Mitch Cooper replaced Giancarlo Gallifuoco.

Okon's substitutions paid off in the 87th minute when Josh Brillante carried the ball down the right side and crossed into the box to Proia. Proia brought the ball down and laid it to the feet of Barker-Daish who finished with his left foot past the diving Indonesian keeper.

The result was sealed in additional time when Nick Fitzgerald gathered the ball on the right side and worked his way to the edge of the box, after beating his defender he squared the ball to the feet of Barker-Daish in the box who neatly slotted home to complete his double.

After the match Okon was pleased with the result and even happier with the football that his team played.

"It was great to be back in the main stadium for this match. It was a very tough match against a fit Timor Leste team that pressed us for the majority of the match. The better playing surface at the main stadium allowed us to play some good football and I was very proud of the efforts of the players today after playing four games in seven days, in very hot and humid conditions. We finished the game off well and the final score was a just result for the opportunities we created. We now look forward to preparing for the final match against Japan," Okon said.

In the other Group E matches Singapore defeated Macau 3-0 and Japan easily accounted for Indonesia 5-1.

AFC U-22 Championship, Qualifying round

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
15th. July 2012, 16.00	Kaharudin Nasution Stadium, Pekanbaru, Indonesia	Cloudy	31C	948

Japan U-22..5 v. Australia U-22..0

half time, Japan U-22..3 v. Australia U-22..0

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
1	GK	Nakamura Kosuke					12	GK	Aaron Lennox				
4	DF	Kazuki Kushibiki (c)					2	DF	Joshua Brillante				
5	DF	Takuya Iwanami	31				3	DF	Connor Chapman				
6	DF	Ryosuke Yamanaka		37			16	DF	Giancarlo Gallifuoco				39
19	DF	Ken Matsubara				85	10	MF	Lefteris "Terry" Antonis (c)				
11	MF	Gakuto Notsuda	18, 54				15	MF	Nicholas "Nick" Fitzgerald				
26	MF	Hiroki Akino					17	MF	Mitch Cooper				80
30	MF	Kento Hashimoto					43	MF	Luke O'Dea				
35	MF	Masaya Matsumoto				46	8	FW	Jake Barker-Daish				
9	FW	Yuya Kubo					13	FW	Daniel Petkovski				
25	FW	Daiki Watari	45+2			74	20	FW	James Donachie				
SUBSTITUTES													
2	DF	Naoki Kawaguchi				85	5	DF	Corey Brown				
12	GK	Masatoshi Kushibiki					6	DF	Reece Caira				
13	DF	Tomoya Inukai					11	FW	Jesse Makarounas				80
15	DF	Naomichi Ueda					14	FW	Anthony Proia				
29	FW	Ryuji Hirota	77			46	18	GK	Nicholas Munro				
31	GK	Daichi Sugimoto					19	FW	Jason Geria				
32	MF	Takuma Arano					21	MF	Brandon O'Neill				39
36	DF	Ryuga Suzuki				74	23	MF	Yianni Perkatis				
							30	GK	Jack Duncan				
							39	FW	David Vrankovic				
							41	MF	Riley Woodcock				

Team Coach	Yasushi Yoshida	Team Coach	Paul Okon
Assistant Coach		Assistant Coach	
Team Manager		Team Manager	
Referee	Ko Hyung Jin (Korea Republic)		
Assistant Referee 1	Kim Young Ha (Korea Republic)		
Assistant Referee 2	Abu Bakar Salim Mahad Al-Amri (Oman)		

Japan selected an U-19 squad.

match report from FFA

The Qantas Young Socceroos have qualified for the AFC U-22 Championship after finishing second in Group E of the qualifiers even though they suffered a heavy 5-0 loss to Japan in their final match of the tournament in Pekanbaru, Indonesia last night.

Needing at least a point to guarantee qualification, the loss to Japan meant that the Qantas Young Socceroos had to wait for the outcome of the Indonesia v Singapore match which was played later in the evening.

Fortunately for the Australians, the host nation scored two second half goals to overtake Singapore and claim third place giving the Qantas Young Socceroos the valuable second spot and a berth at the inaugural AFC U-22 Championships.

Going into the match. Qantas Young Socceroos Head Coach Paul Okon was able to select team captain Terry Antonis, after he served a one-match suspension for a red card against Singapore, but was unable to use Ben Garrucio who had accrued two yellow cards previously in the tournament.

With fatigue obviously a factor, the Qantas Young Socceroos started slowly and Japan dominated possession making it difficult for the Australians to get out of their defensive half.

Japan opened the scoring in the 18th minute when Notsuda Gakuto successfully got his foot onto a cross inside the box.

Japan's second came just after the half hour mark when Yamanaka headed in from a corner. Watari added Japan's third in additional time of the first half to give his team a commanding lead going into the break.

The second half was much the same with Japan holding possession and creating chances. Notsuda extended Japan's lead to four in the 54th minute with a fine strike following an attacking run.

With a tumultuous task ahead to get a result out of the match, the Qantas Young Socceroos failed to surrender and clawed their way back into the game increasing their share of possession and creating a couple of dangerous chances in the process.

Unfortunately, in the 75th minute Japanese substitute Hirota completed his tem's scoring with an easy tap in from inside the six-yard box to seal their victory.

AFC U-22 Championship, Finals 1st. Round, Group C

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
12th. January 2014, 17.00	Royal Oman Police Stadium, Muscat, Oman	Fine	31C	500

Kuwait U-22..0 v. Australia U-22..1

half time, Kuwait U-22..0 v. Australia U-22..0

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
22	GK	Sulaiman Abdul Ghafoor					18	GK	John Hall		82		
3	DF	Ahmad Rashed		77			4	DF	Connor Chapman (c)		36		61
5	DF	Fahad Al-Hajeri		90+4			5	DF	Corey Brown				
13	DF	Abdualrahman Al-Enezi					13	DF	Scott Galloway				
20	DF	Khaled Ebrahim		34			7	MF	Stefan Ingo Mauk				
8	MF	Ahmad Al-Dhefiri				85	17	MF	Jake Barker-Daish				
10	MF	Faisal Al-Harbi				75	19	MF	Christopher Gligor				
11	MF	Sultan Al-Enezi					20	MF	Christopher Ikonomidis		18		82
15	MF	Shereedah Al-Shereedah					22	MF	Ryan Kitto	70			
18	MF	Adal Matar (c)		50			9	FW	Dylan Tombides				61*
9	FW	Zaben Al-Enezi					14	FW	Nicholas Ansell				
SUBSTITUTES													
1	GK	Abdul Rahman Al-Hesainan					1	GK	Aaron Lennox				
2	DF	Sami Al-Sanea					2	DF	Jason Geria				61
4	DF	Fahad Al-Mejmed					3	DF	Curtis Good				
6	DF	Saoud Al-Ansari					6	MF	Joshua Brillante				
7	FW	Omar Al-Hebaiter				85	8	MF	Ryan Edwards				
12	MF	Hamad Al-Harbi					10	FW	Adam Taggart				
14	DF	Mohmmad Al-Faresi					11	FW	Connor Pain				
16	FW	Faisal Al-Azemi					12	GK	Jack Duncan				
17	FW	Saad Al-Waleed					15	DF	David Vrankovic				
19	FW	Yousif Al-Rashidi				75	16	MF	Reece Caira				
21	MF	Abdullah Al-Faraj					21	MF	Andrew Hoole				82
23	GK	Saud Al-Jenaie					23	FW	Petros Skapetis				61*
Team Coach		Jorvan Vieira					Team Coach		Aurelio Vidmar				
Team Manager		Ahmad M.A.M. Al-Najar					Team Manager		Simon Roberts				
Referee		Ma Hing (People's Republic of China)											
Assistant Referee 1		Jakhongir Saidov (Uzbekistan)											
Assistant Referee 2		Chynybekov Zamirbek (Kyrgyzstan)											

match report from the-afc

A single goal from Ryan Kitto was enough for Australia as they defeated Kuwait 1-0 in the opening game of Group C in the AFC U-22 Championship at Royal Police Stadium on Sunday.

Right winger Kitto slid the ball under Kuwait goalkeeper Sulaiman Abdulghafoor midway through the second half to give his side an ultimately deserved three points in a match in which a nervous Australia team had initially struggled and were grateful to the woodwork on two occasions.

Australia next face Iran on Tuesday, while Kuwait will look to bounce back against Japan in the day's other fixture in Group C.

"I'm very happy with the win as, although we started the game quite strongly in the first 15 minutes, we lost our way for much of the first half," said Australia coach Aurelio Vidmar. "In the second half we controlled the game for long periods and dominated possession. The players were nervous at the beginning, but once that period was over their confidence grew. Ryan Kitto was a different player after the goal. There were a lot of good performances all over the park. Our defence was very good and the goalkeeper and central midfielders worked very hard."

Kuwait started the match the stronger and controlled much of the first period of the game with a high tempo pressing game, and as early as the 10th minute defender Fahad Al Hajeri found the ball at his feet inside the penalty area, but saw his effort smothered by goalkeeper John Hall. Five minutes later, though, Australia were to have their best chance of the half as wide man Kitto picked out an unmarked Dylan Tombides with a cross from the right flank and the West Ham forward's forceful header needed a flying save from custodian Abdulghafoor, diving to his right.

With both sides struggling to take a firm grip on the midfield, set-pieces looked the most likely source of goals with Sultan Al Enezi coming close with a header from a Zaben Al Enezi free-kick in the 17th minute that flashed narrowly over.

Just after the half-hour mark, Kuwait came even closer with another deadball situation. This time, Faisal Al Harbi took responsibility and his swirling right-footed shot from the left side of the penalty area beat Hall but not the woodwork, ricocheting off the crossbar.

In the second half, however, Australia were a changed team, raising their tempo and beginning to dictate play and after 52 minutes had the ball in the net as Christopher Gligor bundled the ball home only for the referee's assistant to disallow the goal. Undaunted, Australia continued to press and just a minute later midfielder Stefan Mauk had the crossbar rattling with a fierce shot from 20 yards.

Vidmar had noted the danger to his side from set pieces, but despite instructing to his charges at half-time to limit the number of needless fouls around the area, another free-kick on the edge of the penalty area again gave Al Harbi a dead-ball opportunity on goal. Fortunately for Australia, the unlucky playmaker cannoned his swerving shot off Hall's right upright with the custodian well-beaten. As a wake-up call for Australia, it could not have been better as just a minute later a mazy run from deep by midfielder Mauk saw the ball end up at the feet of Kitto who finished with aplomb from eight yards. And 10 minutes later things went from bad to worse for Kuwait as Al Harbi, who had been the creative hub for his side, was stretchered off injured. His replacement, Yousif Al Rashidi, did his best to fill the playmaker's gap and worked himself into space in the final 10 minutes on two occasions only to be denied first by some stout defending from substitute Jason Geria and then by poor finishing as he blazed over from 12 yards out.

"The truth is we helped Australia to beat us. We made mistakes through bad work, that's the reason," said Kuwait coach Jorvan Vieira. "Today we were very bad, we lost our style of play. Even the first half wasn't that good, it was just a little bit better. They played like a different team to the one I saw in Qatar (at the 2014 WAFF Championship). We made mistakes, we didn't maintain our rhythm for both halves, and they get paid like this: with defeat."

AFC U-22 Championship, Finals 1st. Round, Group C

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
14th. January 2014, 17.00	Royal Oman Police Stadium, Muscat, Oman	Very good	18C	250

Iran U-22..0 v. Australia U-22..1

half time, Iran U-22..0 v. Australia U-22..0

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
						START LIST							
1	GK	Ali Reza Safar Beiranvand					1	GK	Aaron Lennox				
2	DF	Vahid Esmaeilibeigi					3	DF	Curtis Good (c)		49		
3	DF	Shahryar Shirvand (c)					4	DF	Connor Chapman		23		
5	DF	Mohammad Amin Hajmohammadi		38			13	DF	Scott Galloway				
13	DF	Ahmad Zendehrooh					6	MF	Joshua Brillante				
23	DF	Mehdi Shiri				62	8	MF	Ryan Edwards				80
6	MF	Morteza Pouraliganji					16	MF	Reece Caira				
14	MF	Shahab Karami		78			21	MF	Andrew Hoole				
9	FW	Kaveh Rezaei					10	FW	Adam Taggart				86
19	FW	Behnam Barzay				71	11	FW	Connor Pain				
20	FW	Ehsan Pahlavan				84	23	FW	Petros Skapetis	56			90
						SUBSTITUTES							
10	MF	Afshin Esmaeilzadeh					5	DF	Corey Brown				
11	FW	Seyed Peyman Miri				71	7	MF	Stefan Ingo Mauk				86
12	GK	Amir Abed Zadeh					9	FW	Dylan Tombides				90
15	DF	Navid Khoshhava					12	GK	Jack Duncan				
16	DF	Fardin Abedini				62	14	FW	Nicholas Ansell				
17	FW	Arsalan Motahhari				84	15	DF	David Vrankovic				
18	FW	Masoud Riki					17	MF	Jake Barker-Daish				80
21	DF	Ammar Nik Kar					18	GK	John Hall				
22	GK	Farzin Karousian					19	MF	Christopher Gligor				
							20	MF	Christopher Ikonomidis				
							22	MF	Ryan Kitto				

Team Coach	Human Afazeli	Team Coach	Aurelio Vidmar
Team Manager		Team Manager	Simon Roberts
Referee	Kim Jong Hyeok (Korea Republic)		
Assistant Referee 1	Kwangyeol (Korea Republic)		
Assistant Referee 2	Jakhongir Saidov (Uzbekistan)		

match report from the-afc

A goal from Petros Skapetis put Australia into the quarter-finals of the AFC U-22 Championship with a 1-0 victory over Iran in Group C at Royal Police Stadium on Tuesday.

The Australian forward latched on to a loose ball on the 56th minute and fired home after Iranian goalkeeper Ali Reza Beiranvand could only parry defender Curtis Good's header following a corner kick. And although Iran threw on two more forwards in an attempt to restore parity, they were unable to breakdown a very organised Australian side, who might have scored again through midfielder Stefan Mauk in the final minutes of the match.

"We knew it would be a hard and physical game but I'm happy with the performance of my players" said Australia coach Aurelio Vidmar. "We need to get a bit more composure, especially through the midfield, as the game got very stretched at times. But overall, I'm very pleased."

While Iran welcomed back defender Vahid Esmaeilbeigi and midfielder Morteza Pouraliganji to the side from suspension, Australia coach Vidmar swapped almost his entire starting line-up from the 11 that began the 1-0 over Kuwait on Sunday. "Every team has the same amount of players, our philosophy is to give everyone an opportunity. We wanted everyone to each get a full game, and we've achieved that so far," explained Vidmar. There's no first team or second team, I'm just trying to build one team."

In a tight first half with chances at a premium, one of Vidmar's changes, striker Adam Taggart, had his side's first effort on goal inside the first 10 minutes as his free-kick from just outside the penalty area went narrowly over the crossbar. Taggart was the most likely source of a breakthrough for Australia in the first period and on the 23rd minute he sent another curling shot drifted wide. In between those strikes by the Australia forward, Mehdi Shiri went close for Iran with a deflected effort that goalkeeper Aaron Lennox pushed out, and a swerving long range effort that was just off target.

Australia came out fired up for the second half, however, and in the first minute after the restart Andrew Hoole's penetrating run down the right side was followed by a shot from the right winger that needed to be punched clear by an alert Beiranvand at his near post.

Centre-back Good was then forced to leave the field for treatment to a nasty gash above his eye following a clash of heads, and with the big centre-back off the field, Iran had their best chance to open the scoring as Kaveh Rezaei slipped to Benham Barzay for a low shot from inside the penalty area that was parried wide by Lennox in the Australia goal. But with Good back on the field sporting a mass of white gauzing around his injured forehead, it was Australia who took the lead. Awarded a free-kick in a central area on the 55th minute, Hoole skimmed a low shot off the turf that was pushed out for a corner by the Iranian custodian.

But from the resulting set-piece, a hurtling blur of bandages in the form of Good powered a header on target that Beiranvand could only parry as far as the waiting Skapetis, who hooked the ball into the gaping net.

In a bid to seek an equaliser, Iran brought on strikers Arsalan Motahhari and Seyed Miri and it was the former who had his side's best chance with a low shot into the arms of a sprawling Lennox following good work from Rezaei.

Australia dominated possession for the remains of the second half, although Motahhari had time for another effort at the death but this time his shot from the edge of the penalty area went wide of Lennox's right-hand post. With a lengthy seven minutes of stoppage time added due to Good's extended treatment, Maulk could have put the game to bed, but a good save from Beiranvand prevented the second half substitute from doubling the advantage.

"It was a physically demanding game and we can say a game of small differences. Australia is a great team, very organised with a fighting spirit," said Iran coach Human Afazeli. "A big difference was that Australia used almost 11 new players, and we couldn't do that as we have only 20 players in our squad and three of them are goalkeepers. "I want to praise my players, they showed fantastic effort. I am satisfied with their efforts, they did a good job."

AFC U-22 Championship, Finals 1st. Round, Group C

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
16th. January 2014, 17.00	Royal Oman Police Stadium, Muscat, Oman	Good	19C	150

Japan U-22..4 v. Australia U-22..0

half time, Japan U-22..3 v. Australia U-22..0

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
18	GK	Daichi Sugimoto					12	GK	Jack Duncan				
2	DF	Naoki Kawaguichi					2	DF	Jason Geria (c)				
3	DF	Kyohei Yoshino					5	DF	Corey Brown	45(og)			
5	DF	Takaharu Nishino (c)					15	DF	David Vrankovic				
6	DF	Ryosuke Yamanaka					7	MF	Stefan Ingo Mauk				85
20	DF	Naomichi Ueda					17	MF	Jake Barker-Daish				
7	MF	Riki Harakawa				68	19	MF	Christopher Gligor		47		
13	MF	Shinya Yajima	24			56	20	MF	Christopher Ikonomidis				
22	MF	Takuya Kida					22	MF	Ryan Kitto				
9	FW	Musashi Suzuki				75	9	FW	Dylan Tombides				
10	FW	Shoya Nakajima	18, 48(pk)				14	FW	Nicholas Ansell				
SUBSTITUTES													
1	GK	Masatoshi Kushibiki					1	GK	Aaron Lennox				
8	MF	Hideki Ishige				56	3	DF	Curtis Good				
11	FW	Takeshi Kanamori					6	MF	Joshua Brillante				
12	MF	Hirotaka Tameda					8	MF	Ryan Edwards				
14	FW	Takuma Arano				75	10	FW	Adam Taggart				
15	DF	Masashi Kamekawa					11	FW	Connor Pain				
16	FW	Takuma Asano					13	DF	Scott Galloway				
17	MF	Shuto Kohno				68	16	MF	Reece Caira				
19	MF	Hiroki Akino					18	GK	John Hall				
21	DF	Tatsuki Nara					21	MF	Andrew Hoole				85
23	GK	William Popp					23	FW	Petros Skapetis				

Team Coach	Makoto Teguramori	Team Coach	Aurelio Vidmar
Team Manager	Ikebe Tomokazu	Team Manager	Simon Roberts
Referee	Mohammed Abdulla Hassan Mohamed (United Arab Emirates)		
Assistant Referee 1	Mohamed Al-Hammadi (United Arab Emirates)		
Assistant Referee 2	Najah Raham Rashid (Iraq)		

match report from the-afc

Shoya Nakajima scored twice and contributed an assist as Japan emphatically confirmed a mouthwatering AFC U-22 Championship quarter-final with Iraq following a 4-0 win over Group C winners Australia at Royal Oman Police Stadium on Thursday.

Nakajima opened the scoring after 18 minutes following an error from Australia goalkeeper Jack Duncan before the diminutive midfielder set-up the equally impressive Shinya Yajima to double Japan's lead midway through the first half. And after defender Corey Brown turned the ball into his own net on the stroke of half-time, Nakajima's third goal of the campaign three minutes into the second half ensured unbeaten Japan a runner-up finish in Group C and a quarter-final meeting with Group D winners Iraq at Seeb Sports Complex on Monday. Australia, meanwhile, must now re-group for their quarter-final with the runner-up from Group C at Royal Oman Police Stadium on Monday.

"Playing against Australia, who had already qualified with two wins and without conceding a goal, our motivation before the match was high and we were in the right state of mind compared to Australia," said Japan coach Makoto Teguramori after seeing his side record a first win of the campaign following draws with Iran and Kuwait. "It seemed to me what Australia wanted to do was to put an emphasis on keeping possession and we had planned countermeasures for this. Taking the ball back in defence and moving into counterattack was our idea and that gave us the chance to win the game. I have not watched Iraq's games yet and I don't know what to expect, but what I know is as we play more games our combination within the teams gets better. The link between the attack and the defence gets better, so what I am thinking is that if we play football like we did against Australia which is our characteristic, I think we can win."

Australia coach Aurelio Vidmar stuck to his word and changed his entire line-up from Tuesday's 1-0 victory over Iran with his side already assured of a quarter-final berth following back-to-back wins, with opposite number Teguramori also freshening up his side with six new faces following their goalless draw with Kuwait last time out with Japan knowing victory would ensure qualification regardless of the result between Iran and Kuwait.

And it was Japan who enjoyed the best of the early exchanges as Yajima flashed an effort wide after just four minutes before only a perfectly timed last-ditch tackle by Australia captain Jason Geria denied Takuya Kida.

Australia were then presented with their first chance after 17 minutes as Japan goalkeeper Daichi Sugimoto failed to hold Stefan Mauk's shot, but fortunately for the custodian when the rebound eventually found its way to Dylan Tombides, Naomichi Ueda was on hand to block the striker's shot at the near post. And Japan took full advantage a minute later as Australia goalkeeper Duncan allowed Nakajima's low skimming shot from the edge of the area to squirm through his grasp. Duncan, though, was left helpless just six minutes later as the diminutive Nakajima turned provider to double Japan's lead as his pull-back was emphatically finished by Yajima. And in the last minute of the first half Duncan could only watch as Ryosuke Yamanaka's left wing cross was turned into his own net by Brown at the far post.

The fourth arrived just three minutes into the second half as Christopher Ikonomidis was adjudged to have handled as the midfielder attempted to block Yajima's cross and Nakajima dispatched the resulting penalty. Ikonomidis came close to making amends for his error with just over a quarter of an hour remaining, but after a slick Australia passage of play worked the ball across to the midfielder, Kyohei Yoshino's sliding block halted any chance of retribution.

“It was again important for us to make changes to see that the players can play at this level. The first 20 minutes were OK and we had some good occasions, but after the early goal we really struggled. Japan made it difficult for us with the extra man in midfield and we found it difficult to play in the tight areas,” said Australia coach Vidmar. “It was not the intention to take it easy. We had a discussion that even though the match had no bearing on the result we still wanted to play at a high level. It looked like some of the players were fatigued as a lot of these players don’t play a lot of football. They need to try and get through when it is difficult. No game at international level is easy and tonight was no exception.”

AFC U-22 Championship, Finals, Quarter Final

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
20th. January 2014, 17.00	Royal Oman Police Stadium, Muscat, Oman	Fine	22C	200

Saudi Arabia U-22..2 v. Australia U-22..1

half time, Saudi Arabia U-22..0 v. Australia U-22..0

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
21	GK	Mohammed Al-Owais				90	1	GK	Aaron Lennox				
2	DF	Hamad Al-Jayzani					3	DF	Curtis Good (c)		90+4		
3	DF	Mohammed Al-Fatil					4	DF	Connor Chapman				
8	DF	Abdullah Khalid Al-Ammar	62			72	13	DF	Scott Galloway				
18	DF	Motaz Hawsawi (c)					6	MF	Joshua Brillante				
23	DF	Abdullah Madu					8	MF	Ryan Edwards				
5	MF	Zakaria Al-Sudani		62			16	MF	Reece Caira		74		79
6	MF	Maan Khodary				71	21	MF	Andrew Hoole			73	
12	MF	Abdulfattah Asiri	58				10	FW	Adam Taggart				62
16	MF	Abdullah Otayf					11	FW	Connor Pain				88
19	FW	Saleh Al-Shehri					23	FW	Petros Skapetis	77(pk)			
SUBSTITUTES													
1	GK	Faisal Al-Masrahi					2	DF	Jason Geria				79
10	FW	Wesam Waheeb					5	DF	Corey Brown				
11	MF	Ibrahim Al-Ibrahim				71	7	MF	Stefan Ingo Mauk				62
13	DF	Saeed Al-Muwallad				72	9	FW	Dylan Tombides				88
14	MF	Majed Al-Najrani					12	GK	Jack Duncan				
15	FW	Saleh Mohammed Al-Jaman					14	FW	Nicholas Ansell				
17	DF	Abdullah Al-Hafith					15	DF	David Vrankovic				
20	FW	Mohammed Majrashi					17	MF	Jake Barker-Daish				
22	GK	Ahmad Al-Harbi				90	18	GK	John Hall				
							19	MF	Christopher Gligor				
							20	MF	Christopher Ikonomidis				
							22	MF	Ryan Kitto				

Team Coach	Khalid Abdulrahman I. Al-Koroni	Team Coach	Aurelio Vidmar
Team Manager	Khalid Abdullah R. Al-Ghanim	Team Manager	Simon Roberts
Referee	Iida Jumpei (Japan)		
Assistant Referee 1	Karakami Satoshi (Japan)		
Assistant Referee 2	Jakhongir Saidov (Uzbekistan)		

match report from the-afc

Quickfire goals at the start of the second half from Abdulfattah Asiri and Abdullah Al Ammar ensured Saudi Arabia a semi-final with Jordan at the AFC U-22 Championship after recording a 2-1 win over 10-man Australia on Monday.

Asiri opened the scoring 13 minutes into the second half following an evenly contested first half at Royal Oman Police Stadium before Al Ammar capitalised on an error from defender Scott Galloway to add a crucial second four minutes later. Petros Skapetis' penalty did reduce the deficit with 13 minutes remaining after Andrew Hoole had been sent-off for Australia, but Saudi Arabia survived to advance to Thursday's semi-final with Jordan at Sultan Qaboos Stadium.

"I am happy we have qualified. Jordan and Saudi Arabia are in the semi-finals and one of us will be in the final," said Saudi Arabia coach Khalid Al Koroni. "We played to our capabilities. We scored two goals but after Australia had a player sent-off they scored. We wanted the players to move forward but they wanted to protect their lead, also Australia were pushing as there is no difference losing by two, three or four goals. Before our goals we didn't allow Australia to threaten our goal. It has been a big effort from the players after playing a lot of matches, but we managed to stop Australia."

Following a cagey opening, Saudi Arabia goalkeeper Mohammed Al Owais took no chances as the custodian pushed a well-struck shot from Australia's Hoole over the crossbar after 11 minutes before Al Ammar flashed an effort narrowly wide at the other end. Saudi Arabia went even closer to a breakthrough midway through the first half as defender Mohammed Al Fatil met Asiri's free-kick, but thankfully for Australia, goalkeeper Aaron Lennox held onto the firm flicked header above his head. But with the conservative nature of the contest continuing, a rising strike from Saudi Arabia's Abdullah Otayf on the stroke of half-time closed out an even 45 minutes.

Saudi Arabia continued to enjoy the better chances at the start of the second half as Al Ammar fired into the side netting from an acute angle after racing onto Saleh Al Shehri's through ball.

Australia, though, did have the ball in the net soon after but the whistle had already sounded long before Connor Pain beat Al Owais from just inside the penalty area. And Saudi Arabia took full advantage two minutes before the hour mark as a well-worked team move eventually found Asiri, and the midfielder empathically fired high into the roof of the net past an exposed Lennox.

Four minutes later Saudi Arabia doubled their advantage as Galloway was dispossessed inside his own penalty area, after surviving mild claims for handball, and Al Ammar fired home with Lennox again given little chance. And Australia's night went from bad to worse with 17 minutes remaining as Hoole received a straight red card for a heavy challenge on Saudi Arabia goalscorer Asiri. But just four minutes later Australia were handed a lifeline as second half substitute Stefan Mauk was upended inside the area and Skapetis sent Al Owais the wrong way from the resulting penalty.

Australia, though, were unable to find a response despite eight minutes of added time following an injury to Saudi Arabia goalkeeper Al Owais.

“Full credit to Saudi Arabia as they played well and got two goals in quick succession and that hurt us. But to be honest, we were very sloppy in the first half as I thought we could have done better with a lot of opportunities in the front third,” said Australia coach Aurelio Vidmar. “This is a learning experience for us and we will learn a lot for the next time we come to this tournament, so it has been good for us. I am disappointed with the result, but I now know what certain players can do and what certain players can’t do. Our attitude has always been to bring young players and for us we have done what we wanted to. We need to give the players competitive international football and we have found that at this tournament. We have done well to get to this stage, although I would have hoped for a better performance tonight.”

Four-Nation Tournament

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
14th. November 2014, 16.00	Wuhan Sports Centre, Wuhan, People's Republic of China			

Brazil U-22..2 v. Australia U-22..2

half time, Brazil U-22..1 v. Australia U-22..1

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
1	GK	Jacsson Antônio Wichnovski					12	GK	Jack Duncan				
2	DF	Fábio Henrique Tavares "Fabinho"					22	DF	Cameron Burgess				
3	DF	Wallace Oliveira dos Santos "Wallace"			89		23	DF	Corey Brown				
4	DF	Matheus Dória Macedo "Dória"(c)					4	DF	James Donachie				
6	DF	Wendell Nascimento Borges "Wendell"					14	MF	Stefan Mauk				X
5	MF	Danilo Barbosa da Silva "Danilo"				X	8	MF	Ryan Edwards				
8	MF	Lucas Evangelista Santana de Oliveira				X*	5	MF	Jackson Irvine				
10	MF	Felipe Anderson Pereira Gomes				X**	6	MF	Mustafa Amini	90(pk)			
11	FW	Kelvin Mateus de Oliveira "Kelvin"				X***	7	FW	Corey Gameiro (c)	21			
9	FW	Vinicius Vasconcelos Araújo "Vinicius"	45, 66				15	FW	Kwame Yeboah				X*
7	FW	Felipe Gedoz da Conceição				X****	11	FW	Connor Pain				X**
SUBSTITUTES													
16	DF	Vinicius de Freitas Ribeiro "Vinicius"				X	19	FW	Travis Cooper				X**
18	MF	Alef dos Santos Saldanha "Alef"				X*	20	MF	Andrew Hoole				X*
17	MF	Felipe Augusto Carvalho Souza				X**	18	GK	John Hall				
19	FW	Wellington Alves da Silva				X***	1	GK	Aaron Lennox				
20	FW	Ryder Matos Santos				X****	9	FW	Jamie Maclaren				
							13	DF	Shayne D'Cunha				
							17	MF	Ryan Williams				
							16	DF	Riley Woodcock				
							3	MF	Steven Ugarkovic				X
							2	MF	Giancarlo Gallifuoco				
Team Coach		Alexandre Tadeu Gallo					Team Coach		Aurelio Vidmar				
Team Manager							Team Manager		Simon Roberts				
Referee													
Assistant Referee 1													
Assistant Referee 2													

match report from FFA

The Olyroos have drawn 2-2 with a ten-man Brazil in China on Friday night with a 90th minute penalty converted by Borussia Dortumund's Mustafa Amini stunning the Brazilians.

At the Wuhan Sports Centre, Wuhan, Sydney FC striker Corey Gameiro was in the thick of it. He continued his good club form by opening the scoring on 21 minutes to give Australia the lead.

The Brazilians however equalised on the stroke of half-time before taking the lead on 66 minutes. But in a frantic finish a red card to Brazil after a foul on Gameiro in the box saw them reduced to ten men and Amini converted to make it 2-2.

The Olyroos are in China for a four-team tournament also featuring home nation China PR and Korea Republic. The squad consists of 12 players from the Hyundai A-League as well as 10 overseas-based players.

This will be the first time that the Olyroos have assembled since the AFC U-22 Championship in January where they were knocked out of the quarter-finals by Saudi Arabia.

Coach Aurelio Vidmar is looking forward to working with the players as he begins preparations for the next AFC U-22 Championship campaign which will double as the qualification tournament for the 2016 Olympic Games Football Tournament.

“When the opportunity came up to play three quality matches at this stage of our preparations we had no hesitation in accepting,“ said Vidmar.

“It has been a while since we have been together as group and I will be using this camp to assess how everyone is progressing.”

“This will also be the first time that a number players have joined the group and it will interesting to see how they fit into the playing style. Overall goal is for all players to get used to the playing style that we want to take into the qualification campaign,” concluded Vidmar.

The Olyroos will face China PR U-22 in their second match on Sunday and then the Korea Republic U-22 in their final match of the tournament on Tuesday 18 November.

All matches will be played at the Wuhan Sports Centre, Wuhan, China.

Four-Nation Tournament

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
16th. November 2014, 19.30	Wuhan Sports Centre, Wuhan, People's Republic of China		17C	

People's Republic of China U-22..3 v. Australia U-22..1

half time, People's Republic of China U-22..1 v. Australia U-22..1

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
22	GK	Zhang Yinuo					1	GK	Aaron Lennox				
4	DF	Yang Ting		X			22	DF	Cameron Burgess				
5	DF	Shi Ke					16	DF	Riley Woodcock				
6	DF	Wang Tong					2	MF	Giancarlo Gallifuoco		X		
3	DF	Mi Hao Lun					3	MF	Steven Ugarkovic				
2	MF	Li Ang					14	MF	Stefan Mauk				77*
8	MF	Liao Lisheng				46	20	MF	Andrew Hoole		X		
23	MF	Chang Fei Ya	74	X			6	MF	Mustafa Amini				
17	MF	Xie Peng Fei	11			67	13	MF	Shayne D'Cunha				
11	MF	Wu Xing Han	57			76	19	FW	Travis Cooper	22			77
20	FW	Li Yuan Yi				52	9	FW	Jamie Maclaren				
SUBSTITUTES													
7	MF	Xu Xin				46	11	FW	Connor Pain				77
24	MF	Zang Yi Feng				52	8	MF	Ryan Edwards		X		77*
9	FW	Yang Chao Cheng				76	12	GK	Jack Duncan				
10	FW	Chen Hao				67	23	DF	Corey Brown				
14	MF	Feng Gang					4	DF	James Donachie				
12	GK	Xu Jia Min					5	MF	Jackson Irvine				
15	DF	Zhao Yu Hao					7	FW	Corey Gameiro				
16	DF	Liao Jun Jian					15	FW	Kwame Yeboah				
19	MF	Guo Hao											
13	MF	Cao Hai Qing											
26	MF	Wang Rui											

Team Coach	Fu Bo	Team Coach	Aurelio Vidmar
Team Manager		Team Manager	Simon Roberts
Referee			
Assistant Referee 1			
Assistant Referee 2			

match report from FFA

A superb headed goal from Dutch-based Travis Cooper wasn't enough as the Olyroos went down 3-1 to China PR on Sunday night in the Aussies' second match in Wuhan.

The home side took the lead after just 11 minutes through Xie Pengfei.

But the Olyroos hit back on 22 minutes to level the game. Newcastle Jets' Andrew Hoole provided the cross for Cooper and the VVV Venlo player made no mistake with a smart header.

The home side then made it 2-1 early in the second half through Wu Xinghan who burst through the centre of the Aussie defence before slotting home.

And it was 3-1 on 75 minutes as China PR opened up the Aussie defence again.

The Olyroos are in China for a four-team tournament featuring home nation, Brazil and Korea Republic.

Their first game on Friday night saw the Aussies draw 2-2 with Brazil.

Hero of that game was Corey Gameiro who scored the first goal and won the penalty converted by Mustafa Amini.

Gameiro was on the bench for the China PR game as a precaution after he received a bruised foot following the Brazil game.

Brazil beat Korea Republic 3-0 in the other game on Sunday night.

The Olyroo squad consists of 12 players from the Hyundai A-League as well as 10 overseas-based players.

This will be the first time that the Olyroos have assembled since the AFC U-22 Championship in January where they were knocked out of the quarter-finals by Saudi Arabia.

Coach Aurelio Vidmar is looking forward to working with the players as he begins preparations for the next AFC U-22 Championship campaign which will double as the qualification tournament for the 2016 Olympic Games Football Tournament.

The Olyroos will face Korea Republic U-22 in their final match of the tournament on Tuesday 18 November.

All matches are played at the Wuhan Sports Centre, Wuhan, China.

Four-Nation Tournament				
Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
18th. November 2014, 16.00	Wuhan Sports Centre, Wuhan, People's Republic of China			537

Korea Republic U-22..0 v. Australia U-22..1

half time, Korea Republic U-22..0 v. Australia U-22..1

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
21	GK	Gu Sung-yun					18	GK	John Hall				
12	DF	Kang Yun-koo					23	DF	Corey Brown				
20	DF	Song Ju-hun					4	DF	James Donachie				
17	DF	Jang Soon-hyeok				45	8	MF	Ryan Edwards				
16	DF	Jeong Jae-hyuk				69	5	MF	Jackson Irvine				
6	MF	Kim Sun-woo				85	16	MF	Steven Ugarković		36		
7	MF	Kim Seung-joon					2	MF	Giancarlo Gallifuoco				
2	MF	Song Ju-han				45*	13	MF	Shayne D'Cunha				
10	MF	Lee Yeong-jae					7	FW	Corey Gameiro (c)				
15	MF	Lee Woo-hyeok					15	FW	Kwame Yeboah				
19	FW	Cho Suk-jae				45**	11	FW	Connor Pain				
SUBSTITUTES													
3	DF	Park Dong-jin				45	9	FW	Jamie Maclaren	38			
9	FW	Kim Jin-hyuk				69							
14	DF	Sin Il-soo				85							
13	DF	Lee Myung-jae				45*							
8	FW	Sim Gwang-uk				45**							
4	DF	Park Jeong-su											
11	MF	An Hyun-beom											
18	MF	Moon Jun-ho											
1	GK	Kim Dong-jun											
Team Coach		Lee Kwang-jong					Team Coach		Aurelio Vidmar				
Team Manager							Team Manager		Simon Roberts				
Referee		Fu Ming (China)											
Assistant Referee 1		Zhang Fei (China)											
Assistant Referee 2		Zhang Cheng (China)											

The Korea Football Association has the match listed as U-21.

match report from FFA
The Olyroos have ended their China tour on a high after beating Korea Republic 1-0 thanks to a first-half goal from Perth Glory's Jamie Maclaren on Tuesday night in Wuhan.
The Glory striker's goal came on 38 minutes after a defensive lapse saw a Korean defender's clearance hit Maclaren with the ball rebounding into the net.
It was the least they deserved after a first half where the Korean keeper made a string of saves to keep out the Olyroos.
Melbourne Victory's Connor Pain and Ryan Edwards of Reading with two of the best opportunities on goal in the first half.
The score remained 1-0 in the second half for the Olyroos to register their first win of the tournament.
This was the Olyroos' third and final game of their China tour, a four-team tournament featuring the home nation as well as Brazil and Korea Republic.
The Olyroos' starting line up against Korea Republic:
John Hall, Corey Brown, James Donachie, Ryan Edwards, Corey Gameiro, Jackson Irvine, Kwame Yeboah, Steven Urgakovic, Giancarlo Gallifuoco, Connor Pain, Shane D'Cunha.

The final of this tournament was played on the 18th.November 2014, People's Republic of China..1 v. Brazil..2

AFC U-23 Championship, Qualifing Round

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
27th. March 2015, 16.00	National Stadium, Kaohsiung City, Chinese Taipei	Bright and sunny	29C	300

Hong Kong U-23..0 v. Australia U-23..6

half time, Hong Kong U-23..0 v. Australia U-23..2

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
19	GK	Liang Yuhao					12	GK	Jack Duncan				
4	DF	Leung Nok Hang					2	DF	Jason Geria				
5	DF	Fok Brian					4	DF	James Donachie				
13	DF	Li Ngai Hoi					6	DF	Joshua Brillante				76
14	DF	Fong Pak Lun					23	DF	Bradley Smith				
6	MF	Ngan Lok Fung (c)					5	MF	Jackson Irvine				
8	MF	Lee Ka Ho					8	MF	Ryan Edwards				
10	MF	Robson Augusto Leung				70	10	MF	Mustafa Amini (c)	10			
7	FW	Chuck Yiu Kwok		48		79	7	FW	Ryan Williams				60
9	FW	Hui Ka Lok				83	9	FW	Jamie Maclaren	76, 90+1, 90+5			
11	FW	Hui Wang Fung					11	FW	Connor Pain	21, 79			82
SUBSTITUTES													
1	GK	Yuen Ho Chun					1	GK	Aaron Lennox				
2	FW	Wong Tsz Ho				70	3	DF	Giancarlo Gallifuoco				
3	DF	Yu Pui Hong					15	DF	Scott Galloway				
12	MF	Li Ka Chun					16	MF	Steven Ugarkovic				60
16	MF	Tse Long Hin					17	MF	Daniel Peter de Silva				76
17	MF	Wong Chun Hin					18	GK	John Hall				
18	GK	To Chun Kiu					19	DF	Cameron Burgess				
20	MF	Lau Ka Ming				79	22	FW	Adam Taggart				
21	MF	Lau Ho Lam					24	DF	Corey Brown				
22	DF	Lai Hau Hei					32	FW	Jaushua Sotirio				82
23	FW	Chung Wai Keung				83	46	FW	George Blackwood				
26	DF	Lau Hok Ming											

Team Coach	Kim Pangon	Team Coach	Aurelio Vidmar
Team Manager	Szeto Man Chun	Team Manager	Matthew Sheppard
Referee	Minoru Tojo (Japan)		
Assistant Referee 1	Yang Byoung Eun (Korea Republic)		
Assistant Referee 2	Ahmad Moannes Nadi Al-Roalle (Jordan)		

match report from FFA
The Olyroos have claimed a comprehensive 6-0 win in their opening AFC U-23 Championship qualifier against Hong Kong on Friday night.
There was a distinct Hyundai A-League flavor to the scoresheet with Glory striker Jamie Maclaren claiming a hat-trick and Victory frontman Connor Pain banking a brace.
German-based Mustafa Amini was the other goal scorer for the Aussies, firing in a spectacular volley from outside the box to notch the game's opener.
The Olyroos will next take on tournament hosts Chinese Taipei on Sunday before their final match against Myanmar on 31 March.
Aurelio Vidmar's side dominated the clash in Kaohsiung, with Hong Kong rarely threatening Jack Duncan in goal.
They took a 2-0 lead into the break courtesy of Amini and Pain, who made a great solo run to notch his first of the night.
The Aussies piled on four unanswered goals in the second stanza, with Steve Ugarkovic and Jaushua Sotorio making appearances off the bench in the final 6-0 result.
The AFC U-23 Championship, which will be played in Qatar in 2016, doubles as the qualification tournament for the 2016 Olympic Games, with the top three ranked teams stamping their ticket for Brazil.
To progress to the AFC U-23 Championship the Olyroos need to top their Group F or be one of the best five second place teams.

AFC U-23 Championship, Qualifing Round

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
29th. March 2015, 19.00	National Stadium, Kaohsiung City, Chinese Taipei	Cloudy	25C	5000

Chinese Taipei U-23..0 v. Australia U-23..4

half time, Chinese Taipei U-23..0 v. Australia U-23..2													
No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
22	GK	Tsai Shuo-Che					1	GK	Aaron Lennox				
2	DF	Wang Ruei (c)					3	DF	Giancarlo Gallifuoco				
3	DF	Peng Hung-Wei					6	DF	Joshua Brillante	2			
5	DF	Lin Yueh-Han					15	DF	Scott Galloway				
12	MF	Ho Hung-Wei					19	DF	Cameron Burgess				
14	MF	Mou Jia-Hong				46	24	DF	Corey Brown				
15	MF	Liu Sheng-Yi				28	8	MF	Ryan Edwards (c)		17		68
16	MF	Wei Yu-Jen					16	MF	Steven Ugarkovic				
7	FW	Hsu Heng-Pin					7	FW	Ryan Williams				
8	FW	Lee Tsung-Yang					22	FW	Adam Taggart	45			81
11	FW	Chen Chao-An		85			32	FW	Jaushua Sotirio	59			75
SUBSTITUTES													
4	MF	Hung Tzu-Kuei				46, 83	2	DF	Jason Geria				
6	FW	Pan Hong-Yu					4	DF	James Donachie				
9	MF	Lin Che-Yu					5	MF	Jackson Irvine				
10	MF	Wen Chih-Hao				28	9	FW	Jamie Maclaren				
13	MF	Ko Yu-Ting				83	10	MF	Mustafa Amini				
17	MF	Chen Jui-Chieh					11	FW	Connor Pain				
18	GK	Tuan Yu					12	GK	Jack Duncan				
20	DF	Lin Shih-Kai					17	MF	Daniel Peter de Silva				68
23	MF	Liu Ho-Han					18	GK	John Hall				
26	FW	Lee Chun-Yeh					23	DF	Bradley Smith	78			75
33	DF	Lee Hsuan-Hao					46	FW	George Blackwood				81
Team Coach		Chang Wu-Yeh					Team Coach		Aurelio Vidmar				
Team Manager		Chiang Mu-Tsai					Team Manager		Matthew Sheppard				
Referee		Adham Mohammad Tumah Makhadmeh (Jordan)											
Assistant Referee 1		Ahmad Moannes Nadi Al-Roalle (Jordan)											
Assistant Referee 2		Saoud Ahmed Al-Maqaleh (Qatar)											

match report from FFA

The Olyroos are a step closer to the AFC U-23 Championships after recording a 4-0 victory against Chinese Taipei in their second qualifier on Sunday night.

Having beaten Hong Kong 6-0 in their opener, Aurelio's Vidmar's side scored two goals in each half to see off resistance from their Group F hosts and will now play Myanmar in two days time for top spot.

Former Newcastle Jets stars Josh Brillante and Adam Taggart both scored in the opening period, with Wanderers' Jaushua Sotirio and Liverpool's Brad Smith finding the back of the net after the break.

Playing on a bare pitch at the National Stadium in Kaohsiung the Olyroos managed to control possession throughout the contest, with Brillante getting on the end of an 18-pass play to open the scoring.

Fulham striker Adam Taggart doubled the advantage just before half-time as he seeks to get some valuable match fitness in his return from a hamstring strain.

Western Sydney's 19-year-old winger Sotirio put the Olyroos three up with a delightful long range strike busting the back of the net from 25 yards.

Brad Smith completed the scoring, becoming the seventh different scorer for the Olyroos in qualification, when he tucked home a neat cut back from close range after coming off the bench.

The result sees the Olyroos level on points with Tuesday's opposition Myanmar but with a superior goal difference after they hung on for a 2-1 win against Hong Kong.

The group winners are guaranteed a place at next year's tournament in Qatar, where the top three teams will qualify for the Rio Olympics.

AFC U-23 Championship, Qualifing Round													
Date & Time			Venue				Weather			Temperature		Attendance	
31st. March 2015, 16.00			National Stadium, Kaohsiung City, Chinese Taipei				Sunny			29C		200	
Myanmar U-23..1 v. Australia U-23..5													
half time, Myanmar U-23..0 v. Australia U-23..2													
No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
1	GK	Kyaw Zin Phyo					18	GK	John Hall				
2	DF	Zaw Win					4	DF	James Donachie				
3	DF	Tluang Hup Thang					15	DF	Scott Galloway				
5	DF	Si Thu Aung				71	23	DF	Bradley Smith		22		29
14	DF	Phyo Ko Ko Thein					5	MF	Jackson Irvine (c)				
15	DF	Hein Thiha Zaw		44			8	MF	Ryan Edwards				85

8	MF	Nay Lin Tun (c)					10	MF	Mustafa Amini				
17	MF	Zon Moe Aung					16	MF	Steven Ugarkovic				
21	MF	Ye Ko Oo				62	9	FW	Jamie Maclaren	13, 68			
16	FW	Than Htet Aung				62*	11	FW	Connor Pain				69
20	FW	Shine Thuya					20	FW	Andrew Hoole	10, 57, 70			
SUBSTITUTES													
4	DF	Zaw Ye Tun					1	GK	Aaron Lennox				
7	MF	Aung Show Thar Maung					2	DF	Jason Geria				
9	FW	Kaung Sat Naing	78			71	3	DF	Giancarlo Gallifuoco				
10	FW	Dway Ko Ko Chit					6	DF	Joshua Brillante				
11	MF	Myo Min Zaw					7	FW	Ryan Williams				85
12	DF	Kyaw Zin Lwin					12	GK	Jack Duncan				
13	DF	Ko Ko Hein					17	MF	Daniel Peter de Silva				69
18	GK	Zaw Zaw Naing					19	DF	Cameron Burgess				
19	MF	Chit Su Moe				62	24	DF	Corey Brown				29
22	MF	Thiha Zaw		74		62*	46	FW	George Blackwood				
23	GK	Yan Aung Lin											
Team Coach		U Kyi Lwin					Team Coach		Aurelio Vidmar				
Team Manager		Than Toe Aung					Team Manager		Matthew Sheppard				
Referee		Marai Mohammed Al-Awaji (Saudi Arabia)											
Assistant Referee 1		Saoud Ahmed Al-Maqaleh (Qatar)											
Assistant Referee 2		Ahmad Moannes Nadi Al-Roalle (Jordan)											

match report from FFA
The Olyroos have advanced to next year's AFC U-23 Championship after a resounding 5-1 win in their final qualifier against the previously unbeaten Myanmar to top their group on Tuesday night.
Andrew Hoole and Jamie Maclaren traded goals for the Aussies, with the Jets' forward bagging a hat-trick and Glory's Maclaren adding a brace to his treble against Hong Kong.
Australia led 2-0 at half-time and went on with the job after the break, conceding late - their first in the group - once they were already five goals to the good.
The result means Aurelio Vidmar's side won each of their three matches at the National Stadium in Kaohsiung, scoring 15 goals in the process, with eight different scorers.
The Olyroos will now look forward to January's tournament in Qatar which will see the ten group winners and five best second-placed teams join the hosts, with the top three teams booking a place at the 2016 Rio Olympic Games.
Brimming with confidence following their 6-0 defeat of Hong Kong and 4-0 win over hosts Chinese Taipei, the Olyroos went into the match knowing the result would decide the group.
The Aussies only needed a draw courtesy of their superior goal difference but looked to attack at every opportunity, with a quick counter leading to the opening goal.
Defending a corner Australia's U-23's were clinical in transition, nullifying the threat and taking three passes to unlock their opposition's defence, with Hoole on the end of it to grab his first.
It was an attacking corner that led to the Olyroos' second, this time the ball spilling out to Maclaren on the edge of the box who cracked a shot the keeper could only parry into the back of the net.
A fortuitous strike from Hoole just shy of the hour mark gave the Olyroos their third, the Sky Blues bound forward slipping on the bare surface as he shot from the top of the box but still managing to find a way over Myanmar's helpless goalkeeper.
Maclaren sprung the off-side trap, latching onto a beautiful ball from Mustafa Amini to record his second and the fourth for the night.
Hoole notching his hat-trick and completing the scoring for the Olyroos a minute after with the help of a pin-point cross and some hapless defending from their opposition.
Myanmar pulled a goal back when Kaung Sat Naing was not picked up in the box and fired home from an acute angle but it was scant consolation as the Olyroos ran out convincing winners.
Asia's best and a place at the Rio Games now in their sights.

Gelibolu Dostluk Kupasi (Gallipoli Friendship Cup)													
Date & Time			Venue				Weather			Temperature		Attendance	
4th. September 2015, 20.30			Recep Tayyip Erdogan Stadyumu, Istanbul, Turkey (Kasimpasa Stadium)										
Turkey U-21..0 v. Australia U-23..1													
half time, Turkey U-21..0 v. Australia U-23..1													
No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
1	GK	Okan Kocuk					1	GK	Jack Duncan				
4	DF	Kaan Ayhan				46**	2	DF	Jason Geria				
5	DF	Ahmet Yilmaz Çalik					4	DF	James Donachie				
11	MF	Bilal Başacikoğlu				63	5	DF	Miloš Degenek				
6	MF	Okay Yokuşlu				81	6	DF	Joshua Brillante		18		73*
9	FW	Enes Unal				69*	7	FW	Andrew Hoole				73
2	DF	Emre Uğur Uraç					8	MF	Ryan Edwards				73****
3	DF	Fatih Çiplak				46*	9	FW	Jamie Maclaren	13			73***
10	MF	Salih Uçan				46***	10	MF	Mustafa Amini				73*****

7	MF	Kenan Karaman				46	13	FW	Brandon Borello				73**
8	MF	Irfan Can Kahveci		31		69	23	DF	Bradley Smith				46
SUBSTITUTES													
12	GK	Muhammed Alperen Uysal					12	GK	John Hall				
14	DF	Hakan Çinemre				46**	3	DF	Giancarlo Gallifuoco				
15	MF	Tugay Kaçar					11	FW	Connor Pain				73*
16	MF	Hakan Bariş				81	14	FW	Awer Bul Mabil		90		73**
17	MF	Enver Cenk Şahin		80		46	15	DF	Scott Galloway				
21	MF	Emre Kilinç				63	16	MF	Steven Ugarkovic		78		73****
20	FW	Atabey Çiçek				69*	17	MF	Daniel Peter de Silva				73
18	MF	Vedat Bora				46***	20	DF	Riley Woodcock				46
13	DF	Abdulkerim Bardakci				46*	21	MF	Christopher Naumoff				73*****
19	FW	Oğulcan Çağlayan				69	22	FW	Adam Taggart				73***
Team Coach		Emre Aşik					Team Coach		Aurelio Vidmar				
Team Manager							Team Manager		Matthew Sheppard				
Referee		Volkan Bayarslan											
Assistant Referee 1		Kerem Ersoy											
Assistant Referee 2		Erkan Akbulut											

The Australian U-23 side is also shown as U-22.

match report from FFA
The Olyroos have continued preparations for January's AFC U23 Championships with an impressive 1-0 win over Turkey's under-21 outfit in Istanbul overnight.
Brisbane Roar recruit Jamie Maclaren continued his sparkling pre-season form with a clinical finish past the keeper in the 13th minute.
Fringe Socceroos Adam Taggart, Daniel Da Silva and Awer Mabil enjoyed much needed game-time in the second half as the Olyroos build toward securing their passage to the 2016 Rio Olympics.
The Olyroos' next game is against FYR Macedonia in Skopje on Monday.

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
7th. September 2015,	FF Macedonia Training Centre, Skopje, FYR Macedonia	Sunny		

FYR Macedonia U-21..3 v. Australia U-23..1

half time, FYR Macedonia U-21..2 v. Australia U-23..1

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
1	GK	Igor Aleksovski						GK	Paul Izzo				
2	DF	Filip Ristovski					15	DF	Scott Galloway				
4	DF	Visar Musliu						DF	Cameron Burgess				
5	DF	Leon Najdovski					3	DF	Giancarlo Gallifuoco				
3	DF	Philip Petreski					20	DF	Riley Woodcock				
18	MF	Burhan Mustafov				66	16	MF	Steven Ugarkovic				
13	MF	Nicola Kuleski				74	21	MF	Christopher Naumoff				
20	FW	Peta Petkovski	63			74*	17	MF	Daniel Peter de Silva				
10	MF	Daniel Avramovski				32	14	FW	Awer Bul Mabil				
7	FW	Demir Imeri	3			66	22	FW	Adam Taggart	15			
9	FW	Viktor Angelov (c)	42			81	11	FW	Connor Pain				
SUBSTITUTES													
17	MF	Kire Markoski				66	1	GK	Jack Duncan				
11	FW	Dimitar Ivanov				74	12	GK	John Hall				
14	DF	Darko Velkovski				74*	2	DF	Jason Geria				
19	DF	Besir Demiri				32, 80	4	DF	James Donachie				
21	DF	Mevlan Murati				80	23	DF	Bradley Smith				
8	MF	Hristijan Denkovski				66	6	DF	Joshua Brillante				
15	MF	Davor Zdravkovski				81	8	MF	Ryan Edwards				
							10	MF	Mustafa Amini				
							7	FW	Andrew Hoole				
							9	FW	Jamie Maclaren				
							13	FW	Brandon Borello				
Team Coach							Team Coach		Aurelio Vidmar				

Team Manager	***Blagoja Milevski***	***Team Manager***	***Matthew Sheppard***
Referee			
Assistant Referee 1			
Assistant Referee 2			

Two yellow cards were issued, one to an Australian player in the 51st. minute, and one yo a Macedonian player in the 85th. minute. Australian substitutes not known.

match report from FFA
Dundee United's new on-loan striker Adam Taggart got on the scoresheet overnight for the Olyroos but it wasn't enough as the Aussie U-23s lost 3-1 to FYR Macedonia in Skopje overnight.
In a lively start, Macedonia opened the scoring in the opening minutes before the former Hyundai A-League Golden Boot winner, who has joined the Scottish club on a six-month loan from Fulham, struck back to make it 1-1 on 14 minutes.
The home side took the lead just before the break and made it 3-1 just after the hour mark.
The win in Skopje followed FYR Macedonia's recent 1-0 win over Ukraine.
This was the Olyroos' second game on their European tour which started with an excellent 1-0 win over Turkey last Friday.
The Aussies will now wait for Saturday's draw to determine their opponents for final AFC Qualifiers for the Rio Olympics 2016, which will be held in Qatar in January.

match report from Football Federation of Macedonia
Another impressive result for Macedonia U21. Despite numerous absences, the U21 national team defeated their Australian counterparts 3:1.
After the 1:0 win over Ukraine on Saturday, the U21 manager of Macedonia, Blagoja Milevski, made numerous changes to his starting lineup. Only goalkeeper Igor Aleksovski and midfielder Daniel Avramovski started once again, while the other nine starters were new.
Milevski did lose four regulars in Gjoko Zajkov, Boban Nikolov, Enis Bardhi and Marjan Radeski to the senior national team, while most of the other starters from the Ukraine qualifier were given a rest. The friendly against Australia was used to test the seldom used players.
Phil Petreski and Nicola Kuleski, both born in Australia, started for Macedonia U21 in what was a special match for them.
It didn't take long for the first goal to arrive. In the 3rd minute, Demir Imeri would score directly from a free kick. He sent a low effort past the diving keeper of Australia. The visitors grabbed an equalizer in the 14th minute. After some nice build-up play, Australia scored on an easy shot from close range.
Just before halftime, Macedonia U21 would retake the lead. The goalscorer this time was captain Viktor Angelov. He received a through ball that put him 1-on-1 with the keeper. Angelov calmly rounded the GK and scored into an empty net. That ensured that Macedonia would head into the halftime break with a 2:1 lead.
Petar Petkovski would make it 3:1 in the 63rd minute. The Vardar winger scored a good individual goal. He made a long run and fired an accurate shot to the upper right corner.
The only negative in this game was the injury to Daniel Avramovski. He went down around the half hour mark and had to be substituted. Daniel was able to walk on his own power as he left the pitch, so hopefully the injury is not too serious.

Date & Time	***Venue***	***Weather***	***Temperature***	***Attendance***
9th. October 2015, 17.10	***Hwaseong Sports Complex Stadium, Hwaseong, Korea Republic***			***8561***

Korea Republic U-22..2 v. Australia U-23..0

half time, Korea Republic U-22.. v. Australia U-23..0

No.	***Position***	***Name***	***Goal (minute)***	***Yellow Card***	***Red Card***	***Time of substitution***	***No.***	***Position***	***Name***	***Goal (minute)***	***Yellow Card***	***Red Card***	***Time of substitution***
						START LIST							
21	***GK***	***Kim Dong-Jun***					***1***	***GK***	***Jack Duncan***				
4	***DF***	***Song Ju-Hun***				***58***	***4***	***DF***	***Kenneth Dougall***				***80***
5	***DF***	***Yeon Jei-Min (c)***	***27***				***3***	***DF***	***Giancarlo Gallifuoco***				
2	***DF***	***Shim Sang-Min***				***79***	***2***	***DF***	***Jason Geria***				
3	***DF***	***Lee Seul-Chan***				***79****	***10***	***MF***	***Mustafa Amini***				***80*****
8	***MF***	***Lee Chan-Dong***				***58****	***8***	***MF***	***Ryan Edwards***				***80******
11	***MF***	***Choi Kyoung-Rok***					***5***	***MF***	***Jackson Irvine (c)***				***80****
10	***MF***	***Ryu Seung-Woo***				***58*****	***16***	***MF***	***Steven Ugarkovic***				
18	***FW***	***Park In-Hyeok***				***79*****	***11***	***FW***	***Connor Pain***				***80********
20	***FW***	***Ji Eon-Hak***	***8***				***22***	***FW***	***Adam Taggart***				***80**********
22	***FW***	***Hwang Hee-Chan***				***79********	***7***	***FW***	***Andrew Hoole***				
						SUBSTITUTES							
1	***GK***	***Lee Chang-Geun***					***18***	***GK***	***Paul Izzo***				
23	***GK***	***Kim Hyeong-Geun***					***12***	***GK***	***Aaron Lennox***				
14	***DF***	***Jung Seung-Hyun***				***58***	***19***	***DF***	***Cameron Burgess***				***80***
15	***DF***	***Park Dong-Jin***					***15***	***DF***	***Scott Galloway***				***80*****
12	***DF***	***Goo Hyeon-Joon***				***79***	***23***	***DF***	***Bradley Smith***				
13	***DF***	***Gam Han-Sol***				***79****	***17***	***MF***	***Christopher Ikonomidis***				***80********
6	***MF***	***Kim Min-Tae***				***58****	***21***	***MF***	***Christpher Naumoff***				***80****
16	***MF***	***Lee Yeong-Jae***				***58*****	***13***		***Stefan Mauk***				***80**********
7	***MF***	***Kim Seung-Jun***				***79*****	***14***	***FW***	***Awer Bul Mabil***				***80**********

19	MF	Yu In-Soo				79***	20		Kwame Yeboah				
17	MF	Han Seong-Gyu											
9	FW	Kim Hyun											
Team Coach		Shin Taeyong					Team Coach		Aurelio Vidmar				
Team Manager							Team Manager		Matthew Sheppard				
Referee		Vo Minh Tri (Vietnam)											
Assistant Referee 1		Mnguyen Trung Hau (Vietnam)											
Assistant Referee 2		Anuwat Feemuechang (Thailand)											

match report from FFA
The Olyroos have been beaten 2-0 by Korea Republic in a friendly on Friday night as both sides ramp up preparations for January's AFC U-23 Championship.
Australia's U-23 side conceeded an early goal in Hwaseong after a break down the wing was cut back and neatly finished by the hosts.
The Aussies came close to equalising soon after when Andrew Hoole, who was a late addition to the starting line-up after Kwame Yeboah picked up an injury in the warm-up, had a shot cleared off the line.
Instead it was Korea Republic who doubled their advantage just shy of the half-hour when their captain Jeimin Yeon made the most of some messy play in the box with a well guided strike.
The Olyroos carved out several chances after the interval but couldn't find the goal they needed to get themselves back in the match despite Hoole and Ryan Edwards going close.
Coach Aurelio Vidmar rang the changes with 20 minutes to play, making six substitutions as Australia chased the game.
The result was some expansive football in the closing stages, with both sides wasteful of several chances as play went end-to-end in the energy sapping heat.
Goalkeeper Jack Duncan pulled off three top notch saves to ensure the deficit wasn't greater, while at the other end Awer Mabil hit the cross-bar from inside the six-yard box with the last play of the game to underline the fact it just wasn't the Olyroos night.
The sides will meet again in Incheon in three days time, with a strong showing at next year's AFC tournament in Qatar the priority.
Last weekend's draw saw the Olyroos grouped with the United Arab Emirates, Vietnam and Jordan at the 16 team tournament, which will see the top three sides qualify for the 2016 Olympic Games in Brazil.

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
12th. October 2015, 19.00	Icheon Sports Complex Stadium, Icheon, Korea Republic			19100

Korea Republic U-22..2 v. Australia U-23..1

half time, Korea Republic U-22..0 v. Australia U-23..0

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
						START LIST							
1	GK	Lee Changgeun				46	12	GK	Aaron Lennox	81(og)			
12	DF	Goo Hyeonjoon				73	23	DF	Bradley Smith				72
14	DF	Jung Seunghyan				46*	19	DF	Cameron Burgess				
15	DF	Park Dongjin				73*	3	DF	Giancarlo Gallifuoco				46
13	DF	Gam Hansol				46**	15	DF	Scott Galloway				
6	MF	Kim Mintae				78	17	MF	Christopher Ikonomidis				71
16	MF	Lee Yeongjae				46***	21	MF	Christopher Naumoff				71*
7	MF	Kim Seungjun				46****	16	MF	Steven Ugarkovic				72*
19	MF	Yu Insoo				57	22	FW	Adam Taggart				81
17	MF	Han Seonggyu				46*****	7	FW	Andrew Hoole	88			
9	FW	Kim Hyun				46******	13		Stefan Mauk				
						SUBSTITUTES							
2	DF	Shim Sangmin				73	4	DF	Kenneth Dougall				72
3	DF	Lee Seulchan				46**	5	MF	Jackson Irvine				46
4	DF	Song Juhun				46*	11	FW	Connor Pain				71
5	DF	Yeon Jeimin				73*	10	MF	Mustafa Amini				71*
8	MF	Lee Chandong				78	8	MF	Ryan Edwards				72*
10	MF	Ryu Seungwoo	49			46*****	14	FW	Awer Bul Mabil				81
11	MF	Choi Kyoungrok				46****	1	GK	Jack Duncan				
18	FW	Park Inhyeok				46******	18	GK	Paul Izzo				
20	FW	Ji Eonhak				57	2	DF	Jason Geria				
22	FW	Hwang Heechan				46***	20		Kwame Yeboah				
23	GK	Kim Hyeonggeun				46							
Team Coach		Shin Taeyong					Team Coach		Aurelio Vidmar				
Team Manager							Team Manager		Matthew Sheppard				
Referee		Sivakorn Pu-Udom (Thailand)											
Assistant Referee 1		Anuwat Feemuechang (Thailand)											
Assistant Referee 2		Nguyen Trung Hau (Vietnam)											

match report from the Korea Football Association.
In the second friendly against Australia, Shin Taeyong's team once again earned a passing grade for their attacking football. The Olympic team won both of their matches with Australia in preparation for next year's AFC U-23 Championship in Qatar. At the AFC Championship they can get their ticket for the Rio Olympics.
At Icheon Sports Complex, coach Shin Taeyong led the Olympic team against Australia to a 2-1 win in the 'KEB Hana Bank Invitational Friendly Match'.
In the 49' Ryu Seungwoo (Leverkusen) headed in the opening goal, and in the 81' an Australia own-goal confirmed Korea's 2-1 win.
In the first match against Australia, Ji Eonhak (Alcorcon) and Yeon Jeimin (Suwon Samsung) scored in Korea's 2-0 win, their first of the year in Korea and a result that gave them confidence going into the second match.
Ryu Seungwoo was awarded the KEB Hana Bank Man of the Match (MOM) award.
With the two matches against Australia done, the Olympic team will travel to China next month to do one final test of their skills in a four-nation contest. After that there is the 2016 AFC U-23 Championship beginning in January of next year. The top three teams from the U-23 Championship will be able to go to the Rio de Janeiro Olympics. This match against Australia is one that could be repeated at the AFC Championship if they make it to the quarterfinals or later.
After the first match, coach Shin Taeyong told reporters, "The players who did not start today will start the second match." Guaranteeing a completely new starting XI. The five Europe-based players, who all started game one, were benched for game two. This night was a best XI of players from the K League and universities.
The four-man backline was Goo Hyeonjoon (Busan IPark) - Jung Seunghyun (Ulsan Hyundai) - Park Dongjin (Hannam University) - Gam Hansol (Daegu FC). In front of them was Kim Mintae (Sendai) as the holding midfielder. Kim Seungjun - Lee Youngjae (both Ulsan Hyundai) - Yu Insoo (Gwangwoon University) - Han Seonggyu (Suwon Samsung) made the midfield, and Kim Hyun (Jeju United) was the lone attacker.
Despite fielding a completely different lineup, Korea continued their attacking play from game one. In just the 5' Kim Hyun dribbled through the Australia defense and shot with his right foot. Five minutes later Lee Youngjae was on the receiving end of Yu Insoo's cross and took a left-footed volley that was saved by the keeper.
Midway through the first half, Korea manufactured several shooting chances, but failed to scored. Starting in the 21' with Kim Hyun, and then Lee Youngjae, Han Seonggyu, Kim Seungjun, and Yu Insoo over a 1 to 2 minute period, Korea took several shots, but they all missed the target or were saved by the keeper. Australia on the other hand relied on quick counterattacks to try and get the opening goal.
Frustrated with the way the half went, coach Shin wielded the axe at halftime. Hwang Heechan (Liefering), Park Inhyeok (FSV Frankfurt), Ryu Seungwoo (Leverkusen), and Choi Kyoungrok (St. Pauli) all came in as coach Shin rang the changes. In the first game the European players showed their counterattacking skills. Shin made three additional changes at the half with Kim Hyunggeun (Youngnam University) replacing Lee Changgeun (Busan IPark) in goal, and Song Juhun (Mito HollyHock) and Lee Seulchan (Jeonnam Dragons) replacing Jeon Seunghyun and Gam Hansol in defense.
It only took four minutes for coach Shin's substitutions to make an impact. In the 49' Choi Kyoungrok put in a left-footed cross from the right touchline, and Ryu Seungwoo headed home to open the scoring.
Shin Taeyong introduced Ji Eonhak in the 57' for Yu Insoo. Shim Sangmin (FC Seoul) and Yeon Jeimin (Suwon Samsung) came in for Goo Hyeonjoon and Park Dongjin in the 73'. Finally, in the 78' coach Shin made his final change with Lee Chandong (Gwangju FC) replacing Kim Mintae. With this last change, except for the goalkeeper, all the players who had started the first game were back on the pitch.
After scoring the opening goal, Australia had taken the initiative from Korea. However, in the 81' the Australia goalkeeper inexplicably failed to control a backpass and scored an own-goal.
In the final minutes of the match, Australia did score one goal to make the final score 2-1.

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
12th. November 2015, 19.30	Grand Hamad Stadium, Doha, Qatar			approx. 50

Qatar U-23..3 v. Australia U-23..1

half time, Qatar U-23..2 v. Australia U-23..0

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
22	GK	Muhannad Naim Hussain					1	GK	Jack Duncan				
	DF	Mosaab Khoder Jibril						DF	Giancarlo Gallifuoco				
	DF	Mohamed Alaaeldin Abdelmotaal											
	DF	Fahad Ali Shanin											
4	MF	Ahmed Moein Doozandeh	52										
		Ahmed Fathi											
	MF	Assim Omer Al-Haj Madibo											
	FW	Almoez Ali Zainalabiddin Abdulla											
20	FW	Akram Hassan Ali Yahya Afif	21										
7	FW	Ahmed Alaaeldin Abdelmotaal	35										
	FW	Jassim Al-Jalabi											
SUBSTITUTES													
							10	MF	Mohammad Mustafa Castillo Amini	64(pk)			X

Team Coach	Felix Sanchez	Team Coach	Aurelio Vidmar
Team Manager		Team Manager	Matthew Sheppard
Referee			
Assistant Referee 1	Shukri Al-Hunfoush (Saudi Arabia)		
Assistant Referee 2			

Ahmed Alaaeldin Abdelmotaal is also shown as Ahmed Alaa. Mosaab Khoder Jibril is also shown as Musab Khader and Musaab Khidir. Ahmed Moein Doozandeh is also shown as Ahmed Moain and Ahmed Mohammed. Almoez Ali Zainalabiddin Abdulla is also shown as Al-Maaz Ali. Jassim Al-Jalabi is also shown as Jassem Al-Jelabi.

The Australian squad consisted of the following players:-

Goalkeepers - Jack Duncan, Steven Ugarkovic, Aaron Lennox.
Defenders - Corey Brown, Scott Galloway, Jason Geria, Bradley Smith, Giancarlo Gallifuoco, Milos Degenek.
Midfielders - Mohammad Mustafa Castillo Amini, Joshua Brillante, Jackson Irvine, Ryan Edwards, Daniel de Silva, Andrew Hoole, Kenneth Dougall, Christopher Ikonomidis, Christopher Naumoff.
Forwards - Jamie Maclaren, Adam Taggart, Connor Pain, Awer Bul Mabil.

Six yellow cards were shown to Qatar, and five yellow cards to Australia.

match report from qfa
Qatar Olympic squad beat their Australian counterparts 3-1 in a friendly played at Grand Hamad Stadium
Qatar played the game in preparation for the AFC Asian Cup to be held in Doha in January.
The top three sides at the aforementioned event will qualify for the 2016 Olympic Games.
Earlier last week, Qatar crushed UAE 5-2 in another friendly.
Akram Afif (21), Ahmed Alaa (35) and Ahmed Mohammed (53) scored for the winners.
Coach Felix Sanchez's side will play another friendly against Ivory Coast at the end of this month.

Date & Time			Venue					Weather		Temperature		Attendance	
16th. November 2015, 16.00			Iranian Club, Dubai, United Arab Emirates										
Iran U-23..1 v. Australia U-23..1													
half time, Iran U-23..0 v. Australia U-23..1													
No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
22	GK	Amir Abedzadeh						GK	Aaron Lennox				
	DF	Rozbeh Cheshmi						DF	Scott Galloway				
	DF	Mohammad Daneshgar						DF	Milos Degenek				
	DF	Vahid Haydaria						MF	Kenneth Dougall				
	DF	Jalal Abdi				63		DF	Bradley Smith				
	MF	Mahan Rahmani				46		MF	Jackson Irvine				
	MF	Ehsan Pahlavan				61		MF	Joshua Brillante				
	MF	Shahin Saqibi				46*		MF	Mustafa Amini				
	MF	Milad Kamandani				69		MF	Andrew Hoole				
	MF	Ali Karimi					9	FW	Jamie Maclaren	44			
	FW	Amir Arsaln Motahari				46**		MF	Chris Ikonomidis				
SUBSTITUTES													
	FW	Merhdad Mohammadi	69			46**		DF	Kenneth Dougall				
	DF	Ali Abdollahzadeh				63		DF	Corey Brown				
	MF	Ahmed Nourollahi				46		MF	Jackson Irvine				
	FW	Mohsen Karimi				61		MF	Miloš Degenek				
	FW	Reza Karmolachaab				46*		FW	Awer Mabil				
	MF	Farshid Esmaeili				69							
Team Coach		Mohammad Khakpour					Team Coach		Aurelio Vidmar				
Team Manager							Team Manager		Matthew Sheppard				
Referee													
Assistant Referee 1													
Assistant Referee 2													

Shahin Saqibi is also shown as Shahin Saghebi. Ahmad Nourollahi is also shown as Ahmad Noorallahei. Farshid Esmaeili is also shown as Farshid Ismaili. Vahid Haydaria is also shown as Vahid Heydarieh.
Amir Arsaln Motahari is also shown as Arslan Motahari.

match report from TeamMelli
Iran's Omid team (U-23) tied Australia U-23 1-1 in the match played this afternoon in the Iranian Club football field in Dubai. Australia went ahead in the match late in the first half, Mehrdad Mohammadi scored Iran's equalizer in the second half on minute 69 with an assist from Kamandani.

AFC U-23 Championship Finals, 1st. Round, Group D

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
14th. January 2016, 19.30	Grand Hamad Stadium, Doha, Qatar	Windy, Coldish	18C	307

United Arab Emirates U-23..1 v. Australia U-23..0

half time, United Arab Emirates U-23..0 v. Australia U-23..0

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
						START LIST							
22	GK	Mohammed Saeed Busanda Ahmed Al-Falahi					1	GK	Jack Duncan				
13	DF	Ahmed Rashid Sultan Alkhebail Al-Mehrzi		87			3	DF	Giancarlo Gallifuoco	(86)og			
16	DF	Saleem Sultan Salem Saeed Al-Sharji					4	DF	James Donachie		16		
21	DF	Saeed Musabbeh Salem Sari Al-Menhali					15	DF	Scott Galloway				80
23	DF	Abdalla Ghanim Juma Ghanim Al-Alawi		28			20	DF	Alexander Gersbach				
4	MF	Ahmed Barman Ali Barman Shamroukh Al-hamoudi					6	MF	Joshua "Josh" Brillante		59		
14	MF	Abdulla Mohammad Kazim Moammad Al-Shams				88	7	MF	Andrew Hoole				
15	MF	Abdulla Ali Hassan Mohamed Rashid Al-Naqbi (c)					8	MF	Ryan Edwards (c)				
7	FW	Yousif Saeed Juma Mubarak Surour Al-Durs				72	16	MF	Steven Ugarkovic				64
12	FW	Mohamed Salman Abdulla Salman Al-Akberi					9	FW	Jamie Maclaren				
19	FW	Sultan Saif Sultan Ali Al-Khabeel				72*	11	FW	Connor Pain				77
						SUBSTITUTES							
1	GK	Ahmad Mohammad Shambih Bilal Al-Balooshi					2	DF	Jason Geria				
2	FW	Waleed Ambar Esmaeel Mubarak Al-Mazrouei				72	5	DF	Cameron Burgess				
3	DF	Hussain Abbas Juma Kharam Ahmad					10	MF	Mustafa Amini				64
5	MF	Salim Ali Ibrahim Hassan Al-Hammadi				88	12	GK	Aaron Lennox				
6	DF	Saif Khalfan Saeed Al-Meqbali					13	MF	Stefan Ingo Mauk				
8	MF	Mohammad Sebil Obaid Saeed Ibrahim					14	MF	Terry Antonis				80
9	FW	Ahmed Mohamed Ahmed Husain Al-Hashmi Al-Attas				72*	17	FW	Jaushua Sotirio				77
10	FW	Khalfan Mubarak Khalfan Obaid Khalfan Al-Rezzi Al-Shamsi					18	GK	John Hall				
11	MF	Ahmed Rabia Saleh Al-Gheilani					19	MF	Brandon O'Neill				
17	GK	Hassan Hamza Ali Hussain Al-Maazmi					21	FW	Brandon Borrello				
18	MF	Mohamed Surour Masoud Surour Baniyas					22	FW	Adam Taggart				
							23	DF	Thomas Deng				

Team Coach	Abdullah Ahmed Khalfan Mesfer	Team Coach	Aurelio Vidmar
Team Manager	Badir Ahmed Mohamed	Team Manager	Matthew Sheppard
Referee	Abdulrahman Al-Jassim (Qatar)		
Assistant Referee 1	Taleb Salem Al-Marri (Qatar)		
Assistant Referee 2	Saoud Ahmed Al-Maqaleh (Qatar)		

match report from FFA

The Olyroos have been undone by a late own goal in their AFC U-23 Championship opener, going down 1-0 against the UAE at Doha's Grand Hamad Stadium on Friday morning (AEDT).

In a match of few clear cut chances the Olyroos were unable to make their weight of possession count, with Giancarlo Gallifuoco unfortunate to turn the ball into his own net with six minutes remaining to decide the contest.

The critical moment came from a set-piece when the Olyroos were unable to fully deal with a UAE corner.

After initially clearing their lines the ball was whipped back into the Olyroos' six-yard box, Gallifuoco tried to clear the danger with the UAE's Abdulla Mohd about to pull the trigger but his connection ended up in the back of the net.

Coach Aurelio Vidmar's starting side featured seven players from the Hyundai A-League for the Group D clash, with Ryan Edwards wearing the captain's armband.

With a place at the 2016 Rio Olympics on the line at the tournament both sides got off to a tentative start but the Olyroos settled quickest, Jamie Maclaren spooning an early chance over the bar.

Much of the opening play stemmed down the Olyroos left flank, with Alex Gersbach combing well with Connor Pain, while UAE right winger Abdulla Mohd was the primary outlet for their opposition.

Melbourne Victory defender Scott Galloway earned the first corner of the match when his shot from distance cannoned off the defence, but the UAE were able to deal with the set-piece.

There was a heart-stopping moment 15 minutes in when last man James Donachie had to stretch for a wayward back pass with opposition striker Sultan Saif Sultan breathing down his neck.

The Brisbane Roar defender committed a foul challenging for the ball, earning a booking from the referee, but the Olyroos were able to negotiate the resulting free-kick.

The Olyroos high press consistantly troubled their opposition as the half wore on, with Edwards and Josh Brillante ensuring the Aussies dominated possession in the centre of the park.

Meanwhile Brisbane Roar striker Jamie Maclaren was a terrier up front, his pressure nearly intercepting a pass from the UAE's goalkeeper midday through the half.

The UAE had a great chance to open the scoring when Abdalla Ghanim Alalawi was played in behind the Olyroos lines inside the box but Alex Gersbach was quick to react and able to smother his cross at the byline.

Goalkeeper Jack Duncan was smartly across to save a shot from outside the box with five remaining in the half, which was the UAE's only shot on target in the first 45.

Abdullah Misfir's side got more of a foothold on the match in the second stanza but Connor Pain had a great chance to open the scoring when he skewed a left-footed shot just wide of the back-post on the hour mark.

A nervy moment unfolded when Steven Ugarkovic turned the ball into his own net from a cross but the goal was ruled out with the UAE attacker ruled to be off-side.

A misread in defence from a goalkick nearly brought the Olyroos undone shortly after, with an unmarked Waleed Ambar able to descend on goal.

The substitute unleashed a ferocious, swerving shot from distance forcing a brilliant diving save from Duncan to retain parity.

Mustafa Amini, Jaushua Sotirio and Terry Antonis all entered the fray in the second-half as the Olyroos chased all three points but it was Gallifuoco's unfortunate error that would decide the contest.

The Olyroos next play Vietnam on Sunday night, followed by Jordan as they seek to finish top two in their group to progress to the knock-out phase.

AFC U-23 Championship Finals, 1st. Round, Group D

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
17th. January 2016, 19.30	Grand Hamad Stadium, Doha, Qatar	Windy, cold	20C	539

Vietnam U-23..0 v. Australia U-23..2

half time, Vietnam U-23..0 v. Australia U-23..1

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
23	GK	Phi Minh Long					1	GK	Jack Duncan				
3	DF	Pham Manh Hung (c)					2	DF	Jason Geria				
4	MF	Dao Duy Khanh				44	4	DF	James Donachie	2			
6	MF	Bui Tien Dung					20	DF	Alexander Gersbach				
17	MF	Huynh Tan Tai		44			23	DF	Thomas Deng				78
20	MF	Do Duy Manh					7	MF	Andrew Hoole				66
21	MF	Pham Duc Huy					8	MF	Ryan Edwards (c)				
22	MF	Nguyen Huu Dung				71	10	MF	Mustafa Amini		11		85
10	FW	Nguyen Cong Phuong					19	MF	Brandon O'Neill				
11	FW	Le Thanh Binh					9	FW	Jamie Maclaren	61			
19	FW	Nguyen Van Toan					21	FW	Brandon Borrello				
SUBSTITUTES													
1	GK	Pham Van Tien					3	DF	Giancarlo Gallifuoco				78
5	MF	Pham Hoang Lam					5	DF	Cameron Burgess				
7	MF	Nguyen Phong Hong Duy					6	MF	Joshua Brillante				
8	MF	Luong Xuan Truong					11	FW	Connor Pain				
9	FW	Pham Van Thanh					12	GK	Aaron Lennox				
12	MF	Nguyen Tuan Anh				71	13	MF	Stefan Ingo Mauk				
13	GK	Nguyen Hoai Anh					14	MF	Terry Antonis				85
14	DF	Vu Van Thanh					15	DF	Scott Galloway				
15	MF	Nguyen Nam Anh		87		44	16	MF	Steven Ugarkovic				
16	MF	Tran Huu Dong Trieu					17	FW	Jaushua Sotirio		75		66
18	FW	Ho Tuan Tai					18	GK	John Hall				
							22	FW	Adam Taggart				

Team Coach	Toshiya Miura	Team Coach	Aurelio Vidmar
Team Manager		Team Manager	Matthew Sheppard
Referee	Ali Sabah Al-Qaysi (Iraq)		
Assistant Referee 1	Abdulah Al-Shalwai (Saudi Arabia)		
Assistant Referee 2	Mohammed Maki A Al-Abakry (Saudi Arabia)		

match report from the AFC

Centre-back James Donachie and striker Jamie Maclaren scored in either half as Australia picked up their first points of the AFC U23 Championship with a 2-0 win over a hard-working Vietnam on Sunday at Grand Hamed Stadium.

Donachie opened the scoring inside the first two minutes as Aurelio Vidmar's side looked to bounce back from Thursday's 1-0 opening day defeat by the United Arab Emirates after the Olyroos conceded a last-gasp own goal.

And with Maclaren adding a second on the hour mark despite a determined display from Toshiya Miura's Vietnam, Australia head intoWednesday's meeting with Jordan firmly in the qualification picture in Group D.

"It was a very positive game for us. I knew going into the game we had to rebound following the defeat by the UAE three days ago and I was really confident we would bounce back and that is what they did and we controlled the game for long periods of the game. We got a little sloppy in the second half, but their goalkeeper made some fine saves and we potentially could have had more goals, but I am still very satisfied to win 2-0," said Australia coach Vidmar.

"It was a very tough game. We knew it would be a tough game as they are well coached and well organised and they have made big improvements in the last few years. They have lots of 1995 born players that suggests they are investing in youth."

Looking to make a belated start to their campaign following their heartbreaking defeat by the UAE at the same venue earlier in the week, Australia made the ideal start as Donachie was on hand to fire into the net via the underside of the crossbar from the edge of the six yard area after Vietnam defender Dao Duy Khanh had struggled to deal with Alex Gersbach's corner after just two minutes.

And another Gersbach delivery two minutes later almost handed Australia a quickfire second, but fortunately for Vietnam, goalkeeper Phi Minh Long was able to apply a crucial touch as Duy Khanh's near post header looked on course for the back of the net.

But despite the early setback, Vietnam remained in the contest with Ngyuen Cong Phuong providing a constant threat going forward, leading to recalled Australia midfielder Mustafa Amini picking up an 11th minute yellow card for upending the striker.

Australia, though, came close to a second 15 minutes before half-time as the Olyroos quickly worked the ball across to Andrew Hoole, but after the midfielder cut back inside the penalty area, Vietnam goalkeeper Minh Long stood up well at his near post.

Minh Long was then fortunate to save from Maclaren soon after as only an outstretched leg denied the striker as the Brisbane Roar forward connected with a pull back from team-mate Brandon Borrello, who shot wide just before half-time.

And the Vietnam goalkeeper continued to be required at the start of the second half as the custodian snuffed out a chance for Maclaren just two minutes after the restart from Borrello's through ball before pushing away a flicked header from the striker a minute later, with Donachie unable to capitalise on the rebound.

But Maclaren finally found a way past Minh Long on the hour mark as the striker netted from the edge of the six yard area from Hoole's pass after Vietnam had failed to clear the ball out of their penalty area after Amini had been denied by the goalkeeper.

That finally put daylight between the sides, although Vietnam continued to push for a goal that their display deserved and Miura's side were only denied an 85th minute consolation as Australia goalkeeper Jack Duncan acrobatically turned Pham Manh Hung's dipping free-kick over the crossbar.

"In the first game we were not aggressive enough in the loss against Jordan. It was the first experience for some of the players and they were a little nervous, but we spoke about this today and we played more aggressively and we were much better than in the first game. We lost two goals from crosses and we know Australia are much taller than us," said Vietnam coach Miura.

"We have lost two games and it is now quite difficult to go to the quarter-finals, but this is the first experience in the final round of Olympic qualifying and most of these players are under 20 years old and I hope for the future these young players get good experience."

AFC U-23 Championship Finals, 1st. Round, Group D

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
20th. January 2016, 19.30	Suhaim Bin Hamad Stadium, Doha, Qatar	Good	20C	2358

Jordan U-23..0 v. Australia U-23..0

half time, Jordan U-23..0 v. Australia U-23..0

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
						START LIST							
1	GK	Noureddin Zaid Khaleel Bani Ateyah					12	GK	Aaron Lennox				
3	DF	Mohannad Khair Alla Al-Soliman					2	DF	Jason Geria				
4	DF	Amer Omar Mohammad Abuhudieab					4	DF	James Donachie				
6	DF	Omar Ahmad Mustafa Al-Manasrah					5	DF	Cameron Burgess				
16	DF	Ahmad Hisham Abdel Mohammad					20	DF	Alexander Gersbach				
21	DF	Feras Zeyad Yousef Shilbaya					6	MF	Joshua Brillante				71
23	DF	Ehsan Manel Farhan Haddad				85	10	MF	Mustafa Amini (c)				
7	MF	Fadi Mahmoud Awad					13	MF	Stefan Ingo Mauk				62
8	MF	Mahmoud Nayef Ahmad Al-Mardi				77	19	MF	Brandon O'Neill				
17	MF	Rajaei Ayed Fadel Hasan (c)					9	FW	Jamie Maclaren				
20	MF	Baha' Faisal Mohammad Seif				73	21	FW	Brandon Borrello				86
						SUBSTITUTES							
2	DF	Yousef Raed Abdul Kareem Khlifa					1	GK	Jack Duncan				
5	DF	Munther Yousef Raja Hasan					3	DF	Giancarlo Gallifuoco				
9	FW	Ahmed Musa Al-Essawi					7	MF	Andrew Hoole				62
10	FW	Laith Subhi Drzi Al-Bashtawi				85	8	MF	Ryan Edwards				86
11	FW	Ibrahim Anwer Mahmoud Al-Khob					11	FW	Connor Pain				
12	GK	Mohammad Zeyad Mahmoud Abunabhan					14	MF	Terry Antonis		90+1		71
13	MF	Saleh Ibrahim Rateb				77	15	DF	Scott Galloway				
14	FW	Yazan Mohammad Yousef Thalji					16	MF	Steven Ugarkovic				
15	DF	Mousa Khaled Ismaeel Al-Zubi					17	FW	Jaushua Sotirio				
18	FW	Bilal Ali Hussein Qwaider				73	18	GK	John Hall				
19	DF	Abdallah Mousa Musallam Nasib											
22	GK	Yazeed Moien Hasan Abulaila											

Team Coach	Jamal Ahmad Abu Abed	Team Coach	Aurelio Vidmar
Team Manager	Maher A. M. Tumeh	Team Manager	Matthew Sheppard
Referee	Ryuji Sato (Japan)		
Assistant Referee 1	Otsuka Haruhiro (Japan)		
Assistant Referee 2	Ismailzhan Talipzhanov (Kyrgystan)		

match report from the FFA

The Olyroos 2016 Rio Olympics dream is over after they were held to a goalless draw by Jordan in their final group game at the AFC U-23 Championships in Doha on Thursday morning (AEDT).

Needing a win to stay alive in the tournament, which doubles as Rio 2016 qualifiers, Aurelio Vidmar's side was unable to find the decisive goal in a hard-fought contest.

They went close right at the death though as Jamie Maclaren's clever lob over the 'keeper cannoned onto the crossbar and away, and with it went the Olyroos hopes of progression.

While the Olyroos dominated possession they struggled to create enough threatening goal-scoring opportunities and seriously test Jordan gloveman Noureddin Ateyah in a disappointing way to end the tournament.

With so much on the line it was a cagey start, with both sides showing a few signs of nerves in the first ten minutes.

The Olyroos manufactured the first real chance from a corner on 13 minutes as Cameron Burgess edged in front of his marker but he couldn't keep his volley down from about eight yards out as it skied over the bar.

As the half wore on Jordan were more contest to sit deep and rely on long balls to try and catch the young Aussies out without any luck.

Despite a glut of possession the Olyroos were really unable to carve out any real chances, Josh Brillante blazing a shot over the bar from distance ten minutes before the break.

It took until the final minute for Jordan to get a shot on goal, with Mahmoud Almardi cutting in from the right and letting fly from just inside the box but Aaron Lennox saved comfortably down to his left.

A swerving strike from just outside the box by Ahmad Hisham almost gave Jordan the early soon after the break, but Lennox produced a full-stretch dive to tip it around the post for a corner.

The match was starting to open up with Lennox required to make another stop from Ehsan Haddad's effort, while Brandon Borrello couldn't quite get enough power on his acrobatic volley down the other end.

Vidmar injected both Andrew Hoole and Terry Antonis into the match soon after to try and spark the Olyroos attack and find the crucial goal they needed.

Frustration started to build for the Olyroos heading into the last ten minutes as Jordan tried to slow the game down and break up the young Aussies' momentum.

The Olyroos were almost caught on the counter attack as the match went into six minutes stoppage time only for Jordan substitute Saleh Ibrahim to spurn a glorious one-on-one opportunity.

Then agonisingly, Maclaren's little lob over the keeper from Burgess' flick on rebounded back off the crossbar, and the Olyroos best chance was gone.

Australia exits the tournament with just one defeat and one goal conceded, while Jordan move on to the quarter finals to play Korea Republic.

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
24th. March 2017, 19.00	Pinatar Arena, Murcia, Spain			

Austria U-21..1 v. Australia U-23..1

half time, Austria U-21..0 v. Australia U-23..0

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
						START LIST							
	GK	Osman Hadzikic				46		GK	Danijel Nizic				X***
	DF	Petar Gluhakovic						DF	Nicholas Cowburn				
	DF	Stephan Posch						DF	Cameron Burgess				
	DF	Philipp Lienhart (c)		X				MF	Thomas Deng				
	DF	Manuel Haas						MF	Stefan Mauk				
	MF	Marco Krainz				46*		FW	Deni Juric				
	MF	Xaver Schlager				66		FW	Awer Bul Mabil				
	MF	Sascha Horvath						DF	Alexander Gersbach				
	MF	Philipp Malicsek		X		66*		MF	Ajdin Hrustic				
	MF	Mathias Honsk				26		MF	Panagiotis "Panos" Armenakas				
	FW	Marko Kvasina				75		MF	Aiden O'Neill				
						SUBSTITUTES							
	GK	Alexander Schlager				46		FW	Milislav Popovic				X
	MF	Rami Tekir		X		46*		MF	Thomas Prinsen				X*
	MF	Dominik Baumgartner				66		MF	Jake Brimmer				X**
	FW	Adrian Grbic	85			66*		GK	Thomas Glover				X***
	MF	Dominik Prokop				26		MF	Joshua Laws				X****
	MF	Simon Pirkl				75		MF	Anthony Kalik				X*****
								DF	Con Ouzounidis				X******

Team Coach	Werner Gregoritsch	Team Coach	Josep Gombau Balague
Team Manager		Team Manager	
Referee			
Assistant Referee 1			
Assistant Referee 2			

report from ÖFB (Austrian Football Association - Österreichischer Fussball-Bund) http://oefb.at/im-ersten-laenderspiel-des-neuen-news26554

Das U21-Nationalteam trennt sich im ersten Länderspiel des neuen Jahrgangs 1:1 (0:0) von Australien.

Nach einer torlosen ersten Halbzeit brachte Awer Mabil Australien in der 55. mit 1:0 in Führung. Der eingewechselte Adrian Grbic glich in der Schlussphase zum 1:1 für die Mannschaft von Werner Gregoritsch aus (85.).

Mathias Honsak musste das Feld nach 26 Minuten verlassen, es besteht Verdacht auf eine Bänderverletzung im Knie.

"Wir haben in der ersten Halbzeit vier hundertprozentige Tormöglichkeiten ausgelassen. Trotz Chancenübergewicht haben wir ein dummes Gegentor aus einem abgefälschten Schuss bekommen. In den letzten 20 Minuten hat die Mannschaft richtig Gas gegeben und das Remis ist schlussendlich gerecht. Wir sind zufrieden mit diesem ersten Test dieser neu zusammengestellten Mannschaft", so Werner Gregoritsch.

Am Montag trifft die ÖFB-Auswahl im Rahmen des Trainingslehrgangs in Spanien noch auf die Niederlande.

Österreich - Australien 1:1 (0:0)

Murcia (ESP)

Tore: Grbic (85.); Mabil (55.)

Österreich spielte mit:

Hadzikic (46. Schlager); Gluhakovic, Posch, Lienhart (c), Haas; Krainz (46. Tekir), Schlager (66. Baumgartner); Horvath, Malicsek (66. Grbic), Honsak (26. Prokop); Kvasina (75. Pirkl)

Gelb: Malicsek, Lienhart, Tekir

A loose translation is:-
The U21 national team in its first international match of the new year drew with Australia 1-1 (0-0).
After a goalless first half, Awer Mabil put Australia 1-0 in the 55th minute. Substitute Adrian Grbic equalised for Werner Gregoritsch's team in the final phase (85th minute).
Mathias Honsak had to leave the field after 26 minutes, with a suspected ligament injury in the knee.
"In the first half of the match, we missed four certain goals. Despite more chances, we conceded a stupid goal from a deflected shot. In the last 20 minutes the team combined well and the draw was a fair result.
We are satisfied with this first test of this newly assembled team," said Werner Gregoritsch.
On Monday, the ÖFB selection will play the Netherlands as part of the training course in Spain.
Austria - Australia 1:1 (0:0)
Murcia (Spain)
Goals: Grbic (85.); Mabil (55.)
Austria line-up:
Hadzikic (46. Schlager); Gluhakovic, Posch, Lienhart (c), Haas; Krainz (46. Tekir), Schlager (66. Baumgartner); Horvath, Malicsek (66. Grbic), Honsak (26. Prokop); Kvasina (75. Pirkl)
Yellow cards: Malicsek, Lienhart, Tekir

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
27th. March 2017, 19.00	Pinatar Arena, Murcia, Spain			

Finland U-21..2 v. Australia U-23..0

half time, Finland U-21..0 v. Australia U-23..0

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
12	GK	Marc Nordqvist						GK	Thomas Glover				X*
2	DF	Anselmi Nurmela						DF	Nicholas Cowburn				
3	DF	Nicholas Hämäläinen						DF	Cameron Burgess				
5	DF	Juho Pirttijoki (c)						MF	Thomas Deng				
7	MF	Fredrik Lassas						FW	Milislav Popovic				
8	MF	Lauri Ala-Myllymäki				71		MF	Stefan Mauk				
14	DF	Lassi Järvenpää						FW	Awer Bul Mabil				
16	MF	Sebastian Dahlström						MF	Panagiotis "Panos" Armenakas				
18	MF	Mikko Kuningas				89		MF	Jake Brimmer				
19	FW	Elias Ahde				46		MF	Joshua Laws				
21	MF	Iiro Järvinen				80		MF	Aiden O'Neill				
SUBSTITUTES													
17	MF	Ilmari Niskanen				71		FW	Deni Juric				X
9	FW	Rasmus Karjalainen				89		GK	Danijel Nizic				X*
10	FW	Saku Savolainen	48, 82			46		MF	Thomas Prinsen				X**
11	MF	Joonas Vahtera				80		MF	Isaac Danzo				X***
1	GK	Paavo Valakari						GK	Ashley Maynard-Brewer				X****
4	DF	Reetu Räsänen						MF	Anthony Kalik				X*****
6	MF	Urho Nissilä						DF	Con Ouzounidis				X******
13	DF	Joachim Böckerman											
15	MF	Thomas Mäkinen											

Team Coach	Tommi Kautonen	Team Coach	Josep Gombau Balague
Team Manager		Team Manager	
Referee			
Assistant Referee 1			
Assistant Referee 2			

match report from Suomen Palloliito (Football Association of Finland) https://www.palloliitto.fi/maajoukkueet/u21/ohjelma-ja-tulokset-2017

Alle 21-vuotiaiden maajoukkue voitti Australian U23-joukkueen maanantai-iltana Espanjassa 2-0 (0-0)-lukemin. Suomen maalit viimeisteli Saku Savolainen.

Australia hallitsi ensimmäistä puoliaikaa. Joukkue liikutteli palloa hyvin ja pakotti Suomen vetäytymään syvälle omalle kenttäpuoliskolleen. Australia ei saanut kuitenkaan luotua vaarallisia maalipaikkoja.

Puolustaminen oman boksimme lähellä oli tänään laadukasta, siinä paransimme Hollanti-pelistä, päävalmentaja Tommi Kautonen kertasi.

Suomi osasi vastata vastustajan vahvaan prässipeliin paremmin toisella 45-minuuttisella. Ensimmäisellä jaksolla tilanteita menetettiin liian nopeasti pallonriiston jälkeen, mutta toisella hyökkäyksiin lähdöt olivat laadukkaampia.

Suomi onnistui laittamaan palloa nopeammin liikkeelle yhdellä tai kahdella kosketuksella. Murtavat syötöt vastustajan puolustuslinjan edessä olivat niin ikään parempia kuin perjantaina Hollantia vastaan.

Ottelun avausmaali syntyi heti toisen jakson alussa. Lauri Ala-Myllymäki syötti 10-paikalta pystyyn ja tilanteeseen nousi tauolla kentälle vaihdettu Saku Savolainen. Kuopiolaishyökkääjä sijoitti pallon vasempaan alanurkkaan.

2-0-maaliin johtanut tilanne lähti Anselmi Nurmelan jalasta niin ikään kymppipaikan tietämiltä. Savolainen oli jälleen paikalla ja sinetöi pelin 82. minuutilla.

Saku prässäsi loistavasti ja sai useita hyviä riistoja Australian kenttäpuoliskolla. Siihen päälle kaksi hienoa maalia, joten aika loistava sisääntulo, ”Auge” kehui.

Lisäksi täytyy sanoa, että Marc Nordqvist on esiintynyt leirin aikana oikein edukseen. Australialla oli tänään käytännössä yksi paha paikka, mutta hän torjui sen hyvin. Näin hienon voiton jälkeen voisin luetella koko joukkueen. Haluan kiittää kaikkia pelaajiamme, jokainen paransi tekemistään ensimmäisestä matsista, luotsi lisäsi.

Alle 21-vuotiaiden maajoukkue osallistuu seuraavaksi kesäkuussa kansainväliseen turnaukseen Ukrainassa. EM-karsinnat alkavat kotiottelulla Färsaaria vastaan 5.9.

A loose translation is:-

The national under 21-year-old team beat the Australian U23-team on Monday night in Spain 2-0 (0-0). Finland's Saku Savolainen scored the goals.

Australia dominated the first half. The team moved the ball well and forced Finland to retreat deep into their own half of the pitch. However, Australia did not create any dangerous scoring chances.

"Defending our box was of good quality, it improved from the Dutch-game," head coach Tommi Kautonen said.

Finland was able to respond to the opponent's strong pressure in the game better in the second half. In the first half possession was lost too quickly after the ball deployment, but in the second half attacks were of a higher quality.

Finland managed to move the ball quickly with one or two touches. Passing movements in front of the opponent's defensive line were also better than on Friday against the Dutch.

The opening goal of the match came at the beginning of the second half. Lauri Ala-Myllymäki passed to the number 10-shirt Saku Savolainen who came on as a replacement at half time. The attacker from Kuopio placed the ball to the left side of the goal.

A movement started by Anselmi Nurmelan led to a 2-0 goal situation with a placement to the foot of "ten". Savolainen was again in position and sealed the game in the 82nd. minute.

"Saku played brilliantly and got a number of good chances at Australia's goal. This included two fine goals, so it was a great time on the ground," "Auge" praised.

"In addition, I must say that Marc Nordqvist has performed well during the camp. Australia had today, for all practical purposes, one difficult shot, but he saved it well. Thus, after a great victory I could list the whole team. I would like to thank all of our players, everyone improved from the first match," the coach added.

The national team under 21-year-olds participate in their next international tournament in June in the Ukraine. The European Championship qualifiers start with a match played at home against the Faroe Islands 5.9.2017.

As part of the training session for the AFC U-23 Championship qualifying in Myanmar, a match was played against the Western Sydney Wanderers but no records were found of this match.

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
14th. July 2017,	Valentine Sports Park, Glenwood, New South Wales			

Central Coast Mariners..0 v. Australia U-23..0

half time, Central Coast Mariners..0 v. Australia U-23..0

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
						START LIST							
	GK	Adam Pearce				X*		GK	Paul Izzo				45
		Aleksander Stojanovski				45		DF	Lachlan Jackson				45*
	DF	Alan Baró				X**		DF	Jonatan Aspropotamitis				45**
	DF	Kye Rowles				45*		DF	Stefan Nigro				45***
	DF	Antony Golec				X***		DF	Nicholas Cowburn				X
	MF	Tom Hiariej				45**		MF	Joe Caletti				45****
	MF	Velis Joaquin				45***		MF	Jordan O'Doherty				
	MF	Andrew Hoole				45****		MF	Devante Clut				X*
	FW	Lachlan Wales				X^^		FW	Jaushua Sotirio				
	FW	Connor Pain				X****		FW	George Blackwood				
	FW	Joshua "Josh" Bingham				X^		FW	Bruce Kamau				
						SUBSITUTES							
	GK	Chris Marques				X*		GK	Danijel Nizic				45
	MF	Lachlan Roberts				45		DF	Ruon Tongyik				45*
	MF	Steve Whyte				45*		MF	Thomas Deng				45**
	DF	Joshua "Josh" Rose				X**		DF	Kearyn Baccus				45***
	DF	Michael Glassock				X***		MF	Brandon Wilson				45****
	DF	Jake McGing				45**		DF	Scott Galloway				X
	MF	Adam Berry				45***		MF	Joshua Rose				X*
	MF	Kwabena Appiah				45****		FW	Daniel Arzani				X**
	MF	Peter Kekeris				X****		FW	Lachlan Scott				X***
	MF	Daniel De Silva				X^^, X^^^		FW	Trent Buhagiar				X****
	MF	Brendan Cholakian				X^^^							
	FW	Jordan Figon				X^							

Team Coach	Paul Okon	Team Coach	Josep Gombau Balague
Team Manager		Team Manager	
Referee			
Assistant Referee 1			
Assistant Referee 2			

match report from the Central Coast Mariners
The Central Coast Mariners played out an evenly match nil-all draw with Josep Gombau's Australian Under-23s at Valentine Sports Park on Friday morning.
Olyroos 0 Central Coast Mariners 0
It was a fast-paced first 45 minutes at Valentine with both sides looking to settle in and take control of possession.
Paul Okon used the fixture to get valuable minutes in the legs of his players, test a range of Mariners Academy boys and trialists against a crop of the best young players Australia has to offer.
In the opening stages, there was a great partnership building on the left between Antony Golec and Connor Pain in attack who broke down the flank on a number of occasions.
20 minutes in, the Olyroos had a half chance from a set piece before Adam Pearce confidently cleared his line to punch the ball to safety in what was otherwise a relatively quiet first half.
The second half saw wholesale changes to both teams – for the Olyroos it was time to pit Liam Rose and Trent Buhagair against the Mariners.
As he does so well, Buhagiar was creating chances with his pace on the right wing but Josh Rose also featured in the second half who tracked well to keep the young speedster at bay. Josh Rose also lurched forward on several occasions to offer an option in attack, linking up well with Kwabena Appiah & Peter Kekeris.
In the closing stages, there were shots from distance by the Olyroos with one even flying off the post but no one was able to break the deadlock.
Daniel De Silva played his first minutes in Yellow & Navy and almost stole the show with his first touch but the strike was denied by Danijel Nizic in goal.

AFC U-23 Championship, Qualifying Round, Group F

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
19th. July 2017, 15.00	Thuwunna Stadium, Yangon, Myanmar	Cloudy and humid	39C	3000

Brunei Darussalam U-23..0 v. Australia U-23..2

half time, Brunei U-23..0 v. Australia U-23..0

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
19	GK	Haimie Anak Nyaring					18	GK	Tomas Glover				
3	DF	Suhaimi Anak Salau					2	DF	Nicholas Cowburn				
6	DF	Syakir bin Hj Basri				61	4	DF	Jonathan Aspropotamitis (c)				
8	DF	Nazirrudin bin Haji Ismail		41			15	DF	Keanu Baccus				
15	DF	Alimuddin Pg Jamaludin					21	DF	Ruon Tongyik		49		
2	MF	Faezuddin Mohamed Haris Nasution				46	14	MF	Riley McGree	85			
7	MF	Mohammad Asnawi Syazni bin Abdul Aziz					17	MF	Brandon Wilson				
12	MF	Awg Mohamed Aman		44			19	MF	Jordan O'Doherty				
16	FW	Mohamed Zulkhairy Hady Razali					5	FW	Daniel Arzani				67
17	FW	Mohammad Syafie "Shafie" bin Haji Mohd Effendi (c)				69	7	FW	Trent Buhagiar				46
23	FW	Mohamed Haziq Kasyful Azim Hasimulabdillah					23	FW	Lachlan Scott				46*
SUBSTITUTES													
1	GK	Mohamed Burhanuddin Hj Edy Asmady					1	GK	Paul Izzo				
4	DF	Mohamed Khalid Wassadisalleh Mahmud				61	3	DF	Jackson Lachlan				
5	DF	Akif bin Roslan				46	6	MF	Joe Caletti				
10	MF	Muhammad Azim Izamuddin bin Haji Suhaimi				69	8	MF	Stefan Mauk				
11	FW	Abdul Azim Abdul Rasid					9	FW	Milislav Popovic				67
13	MF	Muhammad Nadzri bin Haji Erwan					10	MF	Devante Clut				
14	DF	Mohamed Martin Haddy					11	FW	Bruce Kamau				46
18	GK	Muhammad Ishyra Asmin Jabidi					12	GK	Danijel Nizic				
20	FW	Ak Mohamed Azreen Eskander Sa'oda					13	FW	George Blackwood	53(pk)			46*
21	MF	Mohammad Amin bin Haji Sisa					16	FW	Jaushua Sotirio				
							20	DF	Thomas Deng				
							22	DF	Stefan Nigro				

Team Coach	Kwon Oh Son	Team Coach	Josep Gombau Balague
Team Manager	Hj Madli Md Yussof	Team Manager	Matthew Sheppard
Referee	Yudai Yamamoto (Japan)		
Assistant Referee 1	Karakami Satoshi (Japan)		
Assistant Referee 2	Arman Assadi (Islamic Republic of Iran)		

match report from the FFA

Coach Josep Gombau was satisfied with a 2-0 win over Brunei Darussalam in Australia's opening AFC U-23 Championship China 2018 Qualifier in Myanmar overnight.

On target for the green and gold were Adelaide United recruit George Blackwood in the 53rd minute, before Club Brugge-bound Riley McGree completed the scoring in the 85th with a good solo effort.

"I think that was a good game for us. I am happy with the performance from the team. We had a lot of chances and we should have scored more. Maybe the result is short for the opportunities we had to score. To win a game you only need to score one more goal than the opposition. Two goals more than the opposition is enough to win."

match report from the National Football Association of Brunei Darussalam

Brunei opened their AFC Under-23 Championship qualifiers in Myanmar with a 2-0 loss to Asian powerhouses Australia today, with goalkeeper Haimie Anak Nyaring impressing with several key saves.

The team held the Australians, who Brunei are playing for the first time at any age-group level, to a 0-0 draw at half-time at the Thuwunna Stadium in Yangon.

Australia dominated the game and created 10 goal scoring chances in the Group F tie, but Haimie denied them time and again.

But Australia's persistence paid off when George Blackwood converted a penalty in the 53rd minute and 18-year-old midfielder Riley McGree – who confirmed a move to Belgian first division side Club Brugge earlier in the day – added the second after a mazy run into the box in the 85th minute.

"I am satisfied with our performance in the first half. Hopefully we will learn from this match," national coach Kwon Oh-son was quoted as saying on the AFC website.

"Australia are very strong opponents compared to other ASEAN countries, and hopefully we can continue with our first half performance towards the SEA Games - but first it is important that we focus on our games here," he added.

Competing in an international tournament for the first time, the team will also be lacing up at next month's SEA Games in Kuala Lumpur.

Brunei face hosts Myanmar on Friday in their second game of the AFC Under-23 Championship qualifiers before ending their campaign on Sunday against Singapore. Australia play Singapore in their next match on Friday. Singapore and Myanmar play each other in today's other game.

Australia coach Josep Gombau, meanwhile, praised Brunei for their spirited performance and Haimie for his display in goal.

"Even though we got only two goals, it is a victory," Gombau was quoted as saying on the AFC website.

"Brunei were good opponents and we were unfortunate in the first half – the keeper saved good shots and our strikers missed a few.

"In our team, all players are key players. I believe in each of my players' performance. We are focused on this tournament as our aim is to qualify," he added.

The qualifiers comprise of 40 teams from across Asia divided into 10 groups, and the 10 group winners and five best second-placed teams will progress to next year's AFC Under-23 Championship in China from January 9-27.

match report from the AFC

Goals by George Blackwood and Riley McGree got Australia off to a winning start against Brunei in their AFC U-23 Championship Group F qualifying campaign at the Thuwunna Stadium in Yangon, Myanmar on Wednesday.

Despite a scoreless first half, Australia showed their clear dominance with 10 chances, with striker Daniel Arzani leading the charge as Brunei goalkeeper Haimie Anak Nyaring was tested time and again by the Australian players.

Australia's dominance paid off in the second half as substitute Blackwood converted from the penalty spot in the 53rd minute.

McGree, who captured the headlines earlier on Wednesday when his move to Club Brugge of Belgium was confirmed, added the second five minutes from time.

Australia play Singapore in their next AFC U-23 Championship qualifying Group F match on Friday.

"Even though we got only two goals, it is a victory. Brunei were good opponents and we were unfortunate in the first half – the keeper saved good shots and our strikers missed a few. In our team, all players are key players. I believe in each of my players' performance. We are focused on this tournament as our aim is to qualify," said Australian coach Josep Gombau.

Brunei coach said, "I am satisfied with our performance in the first half. Hopefully, we will learn from this match. Australia is a very strong opponent compared to other ASEAN countries. Hopefully we continue with our first half performance towards the SEA Games. But first it is important that we focus on all games in the AFC tournament. We will play each match like a final. Even though Myanmar is the host country, we don't have to worry about the next game. We will enter it without big pressure."

AFC U-23 Championship, Qualifying Round, Group F

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
21st. July 2017, 15.00	Thuwunna Stadium, Yangon, Myanmar	Rain	28C	750

Singapore U-23..0 v. Australia U-23..7

half time, Singapore U-23..0 v. Australia U-23..4

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
						START LIST							
1	GK	Hairul Syirhan bin Mardan					12	GK	Paul Izzo				
4	DF	Muhammad Shahrin bin Saberin (c)					3	DF	Jackson Lachlan				
13	DF	Mohammad Faizal bin Roslan				75	4	DF	Jonathan Aspropotamitis (c)				
14	DF	Lee Si Qin Illyas		41	85		20	DF	Thomas Deng				68
15	DF	Irfan bin Fandi Ahmad		65			22	DF	Stefan Nigro				
21	DF	Muhammad Hami Syahin bin Said		45+2			8	MF	Stefan Mauk	8			
22	DF	Muhammad Syahrul bin Sazali					10	MF	Devante Clut	68(pk)			
7	MF	Muhammad Muhaimin bin Suhaimi					6	FW	Joe Caletti				
9	FW	Muhammad Amiruldin Asraf bin Muhammad Nordin				81	11	FW	Bruce Kamau				46
10	FW	Mohamad Hanafi bin Mohamad Akbar				51	13	FW	George Blackwood	13, 18			25
20	FW	Ikhsan bin Fandi Ahmad					16	FW	Jaushua Sotirio	73			
						SUBSTITUTES							
2	MF	Muhammad Muhelmy bin Suhaimi				51	1	GK	Paul Izzo				
3	FW	Muhammad Amirul Adli bin Azmi				75	2	DF	Nicholas Cowburn				
5	FW	Darren Teh					5	FW	Daniel Arzani				
6	MF	Dhukhilan S/O Jeevamani					7	FW	Trent Buhagiar				46
8	FW	Muhammad Hafiz bin Sulaiman					9	FW	Milislav Popovic	39, 60			25
11	FW	Adam bin Swandi					14	MF	Riley McGree				
12	MF	Haiqal Pashia Anugrah					15	DF	Keanu Baccus				68
16	DF	Lionel Tan Han Wei					17	MF	Brandon Wilson				
17	MF	Muhammad Zulqarnaen bin Suzliman					18	GK	Tomas Glover				
18	GK	Mohammad Fashah Iskandar bin S Rosedin					19	MF	Jordan O'Doherty				
19	FW	Taufik Suparno				81	21	DF	Ruon Tongyik				
							23	FW	Lachlan Scott				

Team Coach	Richard Tardy	Team Coach	Josep Gombau Balague
Team Manager	Varatha Rajan S/O Subramaniam	Team Manager	Matthew Sheppard
Referee	Ammar Ebrahim Hasan Mahfoodh (Bahrain)		
Assistant Referee 1	Sayed Jalal Mahfoodh Alawi Mohamed (Bahrain)		
Assistant Referee 2	Badr Ali Al Shumrani (Saudi Arabia)		

note that S/O is an abbreviation for "son of"

match report from the AFC

Australia took a major step towards the 2018 AFC U-23 Championship Finals after scoring a resounding 7-0 victory over Singapore in a Group F qualifying tie at the Thuwunna stadium in Yangon on Friday.

Australia had a dream start, scoring three goals in the first 20 minutes with midfielder Stefan Ingo Mauknetting off a rebound after his eighth minute penalty was saved by the Singapore goalkeeper.

Striker George Blackwood helped himself to the second and third goals in the 13th and 18th minutes, taking his total haul to three after having found the back of the net once in the 2-0 win over Brunei on Match Day 1.

Australia took their foot off the pedal a bit after that but there was to be a fourth as striker Milislav Popovic scored six minutes before the break.

Popovic came back for seconds after the restart, hitting Australia's fifth in the 60th minute. Devante Clut then netted from the penalty spot in the 68th and Jaushua Sotirio completed a good day at the office for Australia with the seventh in the 73rd minute.

Australia play hosts Myanmar in their final group game on Sunday.

Richard Tardy (Singapore head coach) said; "I don't want to blame my players. We knew that we had to win to keep our chances alive and we tried that. Australia is a very good team, their level today was too high. Especially when you take three goals in the first 20 minutes, it is difficult to continue for the players. We made some mistakes and I take full responsibility for today's loss. We need to focus on the spirit of the players now, their mood will be down. We will try to keep our honour, that is the most important thing."

Josep Balague (Australia head coach) said; "We are happy with our performance today, it was a good game we played. Everything that we worked on we could show here today. The first match we played against Brueni, we missed our chances to score. That was better this time, we could use our chances. I am satisfied with both games. I am looking forward to the next game, I am very excited, Myanmar is a good strong team. The stadium will be full and that will also be the kind of game we want to play."

match report from the FFA

Hyundai A-League players have starred as Josep Gombau’s classy Australia U-23 side defeated Singapore 7-0 in their AFC U-23 Championship Qualifier in Myanmar today (Friday).

After defeating Brunei Darussalam 2-0 in their opener, the Australians have made it two from two in group action.

Australia completely dominated proceedings on the heavy pitch against a physical Singapore Lions side.

They were confident in possession and clinical in front of goals.

The Aussies were 4-0 up at the break (Stefan Mauk, George Blackwood (2) and Eintracht Braunschweig’s Milislav Popovic).

And the excellent Wanderers winger Jaushua Sotirio could’ve made it 5-0 just minutes after the restart – his low shot just going wide.

But just on the hour mark Trent Buhagiar stole possession in a wide position and the cut back was easily converted by Popovic to make it 5-0, and his second of the night.

Mariners winger Buhagiar was causing all sorts of problems and he was the player brought down for a penalty on 67 minutes.

Jets’ Devante Clut calmly converted for the sixth of the night.

It was soon 7-0 after a corner wasn’t cleared and Sautirio’s fast feet found space in the box and he shot low past the keeper.

Sautirio almost made it eight with a stinging drive that hit the bar with a few minutes to go as Singapore went down to 10 men following a wild tackle on Buhagiar.

AFC U-23 Championship, Qualifying Round, Group F				
Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
23rd. July 2017, 18.00	Thuwunna Stadium, Yangon, Myanmar	Cloudy	28C	30000

Myanmar U-23..0 v. Australia U-23..3

half time, Myanmar U-23..0 v. Australia U-23..2

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
1	GK	Phone Thitsar Min					1	GK	Paul Izzo				
3	DF	Htike Htike Aung					2	DF	Nicholas Cowburn				
4	DF	Thiha Htet Aung					3	DF	Jackson Lachlan				
13	DF	Tluang Hup Thang				90	4	DF	Jonathan Aspropotamitis (c)	32			
17	DF	Hein Thiha Zaw					22	DF	Stefan Nigro				
2	MF	Myo Ko Tun				46	8	MF	Stefan Mauk				78
7	MF	Hlaing Bo Bo					14	MF	Riley McGree				84
11	MF	Mg Mg Lwin					6	FW	Joe Caletti				
14	MF	Yan Naing Oo					11	FW	Bruce Kamau	6			
16	MF	Si Thu Aung					13	FW	George Blackwood				
9	FW	Aung Thu					16	FW	Jaushua Sotirio	58			70
SUBSTITUTES													
5	DF	Nanda Kyaw					5	FW	Daniel Arzani				
6	MF	Ye Yint Tun					7	FW	Trent Buhagiar				
8	MF	Yan Paing Soe					9	FW	Milislav Popovic				78
10	FW	Than Paing					10	MF	Devante Clut		87		70
12	DF	Naing Lin Tun				46	12	GK	Paul Izzo				
15	MF	Zayar Naing					15	DF	Keanu Baccus				
18	GK	Sann Sat Naing					17	MF	Brandon Wilson				
19	FW	Aung Kaung Mann				90	18	GK	Tomas Glover				
20	FW	Shine Thuya					19	MF	Jordan O'Doherty				84
21	MF	Nyein Chan Aung					20	DF	Thomas Deng				
22	FW	Shwe Ko					21	DF	Ruon Tongyik				
23	GK	Wai Lin Aung					23	FW	Lachlan Scott				

Team Coach	Gerd Zeise	Team Coach	Josep Gombau Balague
Team Manager	Than Toe Aung	Team Manager	Matthew Sheppard
Referee	Ammar Ebrahim Hassan Mahfoodh (Bahrain)		
Assistant Referee 1	Sayed Jalal Mahfoodh Alawi Mohamed (Bahrain)		
Assistant Referee 2	Juma Mohammed K H Al-Burshaid (Qatar)		

match report from the AFC

Australia were unstoppable as they beat Myanmar 3-0 in their final Group F qualifying match at the Thuwana Stadium on Sunday to confirm their ticket to the 2018 AFC U-23 Championship in China.
Both teams went into the match on six points but despite holding a better goal difference, Australia were in no mood to play for a draw.
Winger Bruce Kamau scored in the sixth minute and captain Jonathan Aspropotamitis headed home in the 30th to silence the Myanmar fans.
Myanmar turned aggressors in the second half but Australia defended stoutly and in the 58th minute, striker Jaushua Sotirio headed home and Myanmar's dream was over.
Gerd Zeise (Myanmar head coach) said; "I don’t think Australia had it easy as we played well and gave them a hard time. Our defenders made mistakes but we had four chances in the second half but were not lucky.
I will give my players two days rest and after that, we’ll continue preparing for the SEA Games."
Josep Balague (Australia head coach) said; "Now we can go to China. Myanmar were a very tough team and they can play well. We used our chances while Myanmar didn’t. That’s why we got the victory. In the AFC Championship, I know we’ll face tough rivals but I am not worried. We’ll go step by step."

match report from the FFA

Australia U-23s have topped their group in their AFC U-23 Championship Qualifiers after defeating host nation Myanmar 3-0 on Sunday night in front of a a noisy 30,000 fans in Yangon.
In their third and final game in the group, Australia showed their class again with incisive play down the flanks again key to this win in front of a huge crowd at the Thuwanna Stadium in Yangon.
Bruce Kamau's early goal was a good example - the Melbourne City striker's header courtesy of the excellent Jaushua Sotirio's cross.
This early strike helped take the crowd out of the equation but Myanmar showed plenty to suggest this would be Australia's toughest game in the group.
Wanderers' defender Jonathan Aspro's fortuitous header adding a second before the break and his club teammate Sotirio with the third in the second half.

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
6th. January 2018, 14.00	Qiantan Park Sports Centre, Shanghai, People's Republic of China			

Thailand U-23..1 v. Australia U-23..2

half time, Thailand U-23..0 v. Australia U-23..1

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
1	GK	Apirak Woravong						GK	Paul Izzo				46*
5	DF	Santipharp Chan-ngom						DF	Nicholas Cowburn	8			
11	DF	Prawee Tantatemee						DF	Ben Garuccio				
10	DF	Netipong Sanmahung						DF	Aleksandar Susnjar				
9	DF	Wanchai Jarunongkran											
16	MF	Nopphon Ponkam											
18	MF	Tanasith Siripala						MF	Keanu Baccus				
20	MF	Sirimongkhon Jitbanjong						MF	Ajdin Hrustic				
22	MF	Nattawut Sombatyotha						FW	Deni Juric				
14	MF	Anon Amornlerdsak						FW	Trent Buhagiar				
21	FW	Sittichok Kannoo				40		FW	Milislav Popovic				
SUBSTITUTES													
19	MF	Picha Autra						MF	Stefan Mauk	52			46
23	FW	Chenrop Samphaodi				40		GK	Daniel Nizic				46*
	MF	Worachit Kanitsribampen	70			X		DF	Ruon Tongyik				46**
	MF	Chaiyawat Buran				X*		MF	Keanu Baccus				46***
	MF	Supachok Sarachat				X**		DF	Jonathan Aspropotamitis				46****
								MF	Brandon Wilson				60
								MF	Daniel De Silva				60*
								FW	Bruce Kamau				60**
								FW	George Blackwood				60***
								FW	Jaushua Sotirio				60****

Team Coach	Zoran Jankovi ć	Team Coach	Ante Milicic
Team Manager		Team Manager	
Referee			
Assistant Referee 1			
Assistant Referee 2			

match report from SBS
Australia jumped to a two-goal lead in the Chinese province of Jiangsu where the tournament begins on Tuesday.
Ante Milicic's men went ahead when Newcastle Jets defender Cowburn volleyed home a rebound from Ben Garuccio's corner on eight minutes.
Mauk, currently on loan at Melbourne City from NEC, made it two after the break after link-up play from Keanu Baccus and Trent Buhagiar down the right.
Thailand replied on 70 minutes but were second-best against the Olyroos.
Australia begin their campaign on Thursday against Syria, with group games to follow against Vietnam and Korea Republic.

match report from FFA

The Australian U23 National Team warmed up for their 2018 AFC U23 Championship Group D opener against Syria U23 with a 2-1 international friendly win over Thailand U23 in Shanghai on Saturday.

Goals from Newcastle Jets utility Nicholas Cowburn and Melbourne City FC midfielder Stefan Mauk helped Ante Milicic's side secure victory over the tough Thai team ahead of their first match of the tournament in Kunshan, China on Thursday.

Australia U23 started the match the brighter of the two teams and had early opportunities to open the scoring via Ajdin Hrustic and Deni Juric.

In the eighth minute it was Novocastrian Cowburn who volleyed Australia ahead after Aleksandar Susnjar's header from Ben Garuccio's corner had crashed against the woodwork.

Thailand threatened in the 20th minute of play, however starting goalkeeper Paul Izzo from Adelaide United wasn't forced into action as a shot whizzed wide of his goal.

Central Coast Mariners flyer Trent Buhagiar made good progress against his marker on several occasions during the first 45, however Buhagiar couldn't quite manage to execute the final pass to set up a teammate to double Australia's lead.

Milicic made five changes to his side at the half time break, bringing on midfielder Mauk, goalkeeper Daniel Nizic, defender Ruon Tongyik, as well as Western Sydney Wanderers pair Keanu Baccus and Jonathan Aspropotamitis.

It didn't take long for Mauk to make his mark on the match as he put the finishing touch on good work between Buhagiar and Baccus down the right side in the 52nd minute to make the score 2-0 to Australia.

Milicic introduced a further five players to the match on the hour mark as Brandon Wilson, Daniel De Silva, Bruce Kamau, George Blackwood and Jaushua Sotirio all entered the fray.

And while Thailand reduced the arrears in the 70th minute with a snap shot in the box that nestled in the net, some good goalkeeping from Nizic as well as controlled possession play from Australia as the clock wound down ensured that Milicic's side secured a win in their only match together prior the commencement of the Championship proper.

Australia will play Syria, Vietnam, and Korea Republic in Group D at the 2018 AFC U23 Championship in China, and will require a top two finish in their group to advance to the Quarter Finals of the competition.

Australia U23 2 (Cowburn 8', Mauk 52')

Thailand U23 1 (Worachit 70')

match report from Football Association of Thailand http://fathailand.org/news/1726

ประตูของ สุภโชค สารชาติ ในช่วงครึ่งชั่วโมงสุดท้าย ไม่เพียงพอที่จะตีเสมอออสเตรเลียในเกมอุ่นเครื่อง

วันที่ 6 มกราคม 2561 เวลา 14.00 น. ตามเวลาประเทศไทย ณ สนาม Qiantan Sport Center ในเมือง เซี่ยงไฮ้ ประเทศจีน ฟุตบอลชายทีมชาติไทยรุ่นอายุไม่เกิน 23 ปี ลงทำการแข่งขันฟุตบอลนัดพิเศษ พบกับ ทีมชาติออสเตรเลีย U23

เกมนี้ โชรัน ยานโควิช วาง สิทธิโชค กันหนู เป็นกองหน้าตัวเป้า โดยมี ศิริมงคล จิตบรรจง, ณัฐวุฒิ สมบัติโยธา และ อานนท์ อมรเลิศศักดิ์ ทำเกมสนับสนุน ตรงกลางเป็น นพพล พลค่า กับ ธนาสิทธิ์ ศิริผลา แนวรับไล่จากขวามาซ้าย เป็น สันติภาพ จันทร์หง่อม, ปวีร์ ดัณฑะเดมีย์, เนติพงษ์ แสนมะสุง และ วันชัย จารุนงคราญ ส่วนผู้รักษาประตูเป็น อภิรักษ์ วรวงษ์ ที่ได้สตาร์ทก่อน

โดยเกมนี้ทาง มิโลวาน ราเยวัช หัวหน้าผู้ฝึกสอนทีมชาติไทยชุดใหญ่ได้เดินทางมาชมเกมด้วย

ด้าน ออสเตรเลีย ของ อันเต้ มิลิชิช เกมนี้ขาดเพียง อเล็กซ์ เกอร์บัช กองหลังจากโรเซนบอร์ก ที่เคยติดทีมชาติชุดใหญ่มาแล้ว

เริ่มเกมมา 5 นาที เป็นออสเตรเลีย U23 ที่มาได้ประตูออกนำอย่างรวดเร็ว จากลูกเตะมุมที่ อเล็กซานดาร์ ซุสยาร์ โหม่งจังหวะแรกไปชนเสา กระเด้งมาเข้าทาง นิโคลัส คาวเบิร์น ยิงซ้ำเข้าไปให้ ซอคเกอร์รูส์ นำก่อน 1-0

นาที 12 ไทย U23 น่ามาได้ประตูตีเสมอจากจังหวะพาบอลขึ้นมาของ สิทธิโชค กันหนู แต่จังหวะยิงไปติดเซฟของ พูอัล อิสโซ

นาที 18 ช้างศึก U23 พลาดโอกาสตีเสมออย่างน่าเหลือเชื่อจากจังหวะที่ ธนาสิทธิ์ ศิริผลา จ่ายทะลุช่องให้ ศิริมงคล จิตบรรจง ยกบอลหลบแนวรับออสเตรเลีย แล้วยิงด้วยซ้ายถากเสาออกไป

หลังจากนั้นเป็นออสเตรเลียที่บุกหนัก นาที 23 เทรนท์ บูฮาเกีย ได้ยิงจ่อหน้าประตูแต่อภิรักษ์ วรวงษ์ ตามไปตะครุบได้

นาที 31 เดนี ยูริช ได้หลุดเดี่ยวไปยิงแบบโล่งแต่จังหวะแปดด้วยซ้ายข้ามคานออกไป

นาที 40 สิทธิโชค กันหนู มีอาการบาดเจ็บรบกวนเล่นต่อไม่ไหวและเป็น เจนรบ สำเภาดี ที่ได้ลงไปเล่นแทน

นาที 43 ออสเตรเลียมาได้ลุ้นอีกครั้งจาก มิลิสลาฟ โปโปวิช แต่ก็ยังไม่ผ่านมือ อภิรักษ์ วรวงษ์ และก็จบครึ่งแรก เป็นออสเตรเลีย U23 ที่นำไปก่อน 1-0

ครึ่งหลัง โชรัน ยานโควิช เปลี่ยนทีมยกชุด นำโดย สุภโชค สารชาติ, วรชิต กนิตศรีบำเพ็ญ, รัตนากร ใหม่คามิ, พิชา อุทรา, จักรกฤษณ์ เวชภิรมย์, ศฤงคาร พรมสุภะ, วรวุฒิ นามเวช และ สหรัฐ ปองสุวรรณ

นาที 46 ไทยมาได้ทักทายก่อนจาก ชัยวัฒน์ บุราญ แต่บอลก็เหินข้ามคานออกไป

นาที 52 จากจังหวะได้กลับของออสเตรเลีย ไมเคิล มอค ได้หลุดเดี่ยวก่อนยิงเข้าไปให้ ออสเตรเลียนำห่างเป็น 2-0

นาที 58 ไทยน่ามาได้ประตูตีไข่แตกจากจังหวะ พิชา อุทรา จ่ายให้ ชัยวัฒน์ บุราญ ซึ่งต่อมาถึง วรชิต กนิตศรีบำเพ็ญ ยิงไปติดเซฟนายทวารออสเตรเลีย

นาที 61 ช้างศึก U23 มาได้ประตูตีไข่แตกจากจังหวะไล่เพรสบอลและเป็น วรชิต กนิตศรีบำเพ็ญ ที่จ่ายให้ สุภโชค สารชาติ ยิงเข้าไปให้สกอร์ไล่มาเป็น 1-2

หลังจากนั้น ไทยเดินหน้าบุกอย่างต่อเนื่องและน่ามาได้ประตูตีเสมอในนาทีต่อมาจากจังหวะที่พิชา อุทรา ยกบอลให้สุภโชค สารชาติ แปเฉียดเสาออกไป

นาที 80 อานนท์ อมรเลิศศักดิ์ ได้หลุดเดี่ยวไปยิงติดเซฟ กระเด้งมาเข้าทาง วรชิต กนิตศรีบำเพ็ญ ยิงติดเซฟอีกครั้ง

นาที 85 เจนรบ สำเภาดี ไหลบอลให้ วรชิต กนิตศรีบำเพ็ญ กดเต็มข้อแต่ไปติดเซฟก่อนโดนเคลียร์ออกไป

นาที 87 ทีมชาติไทยมาได้ลุ้นอีกครั้ง แต่ลูกยิงของพิชา อุทรา ก็ไปชนเสาอีก

ช่วงเวลาที่เหลือไทยเดินหน้าใส่ไม่ยั้งแต่ไม่สามารถทำสกอร์ตีเสมอได้จบเกม ทีมชาติไทย U23 พ่ายต่อ ออสเตรเลีย U23 ไป 1-2

A loose translation is:-

A goal from the national team in the last half hour was not enough to rival Australia in the warm-up game.

The men's Thailand under 23 soccer team played a match with Australia U23 on January 6, 2018 at 14.00 hrs at the Qiantan Sport Centre in Shanghai, China.

Zoran Jankovic, before the break, played Sittichok Kannoo as striker with Sirimongkhon Jitbanjong, Nattawut Sombatyotha, Anon Amornlerdsak, Nopphon Ponkam and Tanasith Siripala in the midfield.

Santipharp Chan-ngom, Prawee Tantatemee, Netipong Sanmahung, and Wanchai Jarunongkran in defence. The goalkeeper was Apirak Woravong.

Milo Ranieres, the head coach of the Thai national team, watched the game.

Anti Milicic's side was missing Alex Gersbach from Rosenborg who is already a member of the Australian national team

The Australian U23 team started the game quickly and a goal came after 5 minutes. From a corner Aleksandar Susnjar struck the post with a header, the ball bounced to Nicholas Cowburn who fired the Socceroos to a 1-0 lead.

12th minute. The Thai U23's hit back with a shot from Sittichok Kannoo, but the shot was saved by Paul Izzo.

18th minute. The Chang U23 missed an opportunity when Thanasit Siripa penetrated the Australian defence and passed to Sirimongkhon Jitbanjong who lifted the ball neatly but his shot hit the lefthand post and went out.

Then it was Australia, who broke through in the 23 minute, Trent Buhagiar shot at goal, but Apirak Woravong saved.

31 minutes. A solo effort by Deni Juric went over the bar.

40 minutes. An injury to Sittichok Kannoo required him to be replaced by Chenrop Samphaodi.

43 minutes. Australia has another chance from Milislav Polopovic, but he cannot beat the hand of Apirak Woravong and the first half finishes with the Australian U23 ahead 1-0.

46 minutes. Thailand has the first chance in the second half from Chaiyawat Buran, but the ball goes over the bar.

52 minutes. From Australia's counter attack, Stefan Mauk shoots and Australia is 2-0 in front.

58 minutes. Thailand attacks the goal, Picha Uthra passes to Chaiyawat Buran who shoots. Later Worachit Kanitsribampen tries but the Australian goalkeeper saves it.

61 minutes. The Chang U23 pressed for a goal to break their clean sheet and Worachit Kanitsribampen shoots to make the score 1-2.

After that, Thailand attacked continuously looking for the equalizer. From a cross by Picha Uthra, Supachok Sarachat raised the national hope when he headed just past the post.

80 minutes. Anon Amornlerdsak had a shot which was saved, it came to Supachok Sarachat who shot and again it was saved.

85 minutes. Chenrop Samphaodi passed the ball to Worachit Kanitsribampen who continued to press but it was cleared away.

87 minutes. The Thai team attacks again but Picha Uthra's shot hits the post.

Thailand pushed forward but was unable to score the equaliser and the game finished with Australia U23 beating Thailand U23 2-1.

Note:- Chang - War Elephants - is the nickname of the Thai National football team.

AFC U-23 Championship, Finals Group Stage, Group D

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
11th. January 2018, 16.00	Kunshan Sports Centre Stadium, Kunshan, People's Republic of China	Fine	5C	1528

Syria U-23..1 v. Australia U-23..3

half time, Syria U-23..0 v. Australia U-23..0

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
1	GK	Khaled Ibrahim					1	GK	Paul Izzo				
3	DF	Yousef Al-Hamwi					2	DF	Nicholas Cowburn				
7	DF	Moumen Naji					5	DF	Aleksandar Susnjar				
14	DF	Abdullah Jinat		85			20	DF	Thomas Deng	53(og)			
6	MF	Ahmad Ashkar					23	DF	Ben Garuccio				
8	MF	Mouhamad Anez		90			8	MF	Stefan Mauk				
20	MF	Ahmad Al Ahmad					17	MF	Brandon Wilson				
5	FW	Mohamed Fares Arnaout					22	MF	Daniel De Silva				
9	FW	Shadi Alhamwi				78	9	FW	George Blackwood	8, 77			
10	FW	Mohamad Rafat Muhtadi					11	FW	Bruce Kamau	43			45
18	FW	Abd Al Rahman Barakat				45	13	FW	Milislav Popovic				57
SUBSTITUTES													
2	MF	Ahmad Alali Alabdullah					3	DF	Alexander Gersbach				
4	MF	Jihad Busmar					4	DF	Jonathan Aspropotamitis				
12	MF	Hamzah Muhanaeh				78	6	MF	Aiden O'Neill				
13	MF	Tarek Hindawi					7	FW	Trent Buhagiar				45
15	MF	Khaled Kurdaghli					10	MF	Ajdin Hrustic		65		57
16	MF	Zeid Ghrir					12	GK	Thomas Glover				
17	MF	Zakria Hannan				45	14	MF	Riley McGree				
19	FW	Abdulhadi Shalha					15	MF	Keanu Baccus				
21	MF	Ahmad Alghalab					16	FW	Joseph Champness				
22	GK	Ahmad Kanaan					18	GK	Danijel Nizic				

Team Coach	Hussein Afash	Team Coach	Ante Milicic
Team Manager		Team Manager	
Referee	Khamis Al-Marri (Qatar)		
Assistant Referee 1	Taleb Salem Al-Marri (Qatar)		
Assistant Referee 2	Reza Ebrahim Sokhandan (Iran)		

match report from AFC

George Blackwood scored twice as Australia weathered a determined second-half performance from Syria to begin their Group D challenge at the AFC U23 Championship China 2018 with a 3-1 win on Thursday.

Blackwood opened the scoring for Ante Milicic's team and claimed the decisive third to give the Australians a winning start after Bruce Kamau had also scored for the Olyroos and Thomas Deng's own goal had given the Syrians hope of a comeback early in the second half.

Victory puts the Australians in a strong position in the group ahead of their second game on Sunday, when they will face Vietnam and a win against the Southeast Asian nation could secure them a place in the tournament's quarter-finals.

The Olyroos made an immediate impression in the opening exchanges and, by the eighth minute, Milicic's team were in front.

Deng's well-weighted pass out of defence released Daniel da Silva into the space behind the Syrian backline and he rolled the ball into the feet of Blackwood, who scored a goal of beautiful simplicity.

Blackwood could have doubled his side's advantage six minutes later when da Silva released him in on goal, only for the Adelaide United striker to hit the side netting.

The Australians were dominant but Syria still presented an occasional threat, with goalkeeper Paul Izzo forced into action to push Mohamad Rafat's header onto his left upright and out for a corner.

Two minutes before the break, Milicic's side claimed a deserved second with da Silva once more pulling the strings, releasing Milislav Popovic down the left to pull his cross back onto the head of Kamau and he nodded in to score.

Australia remained in the ascendancy through the opening exchanges of the second half, with substitute Trent Buhagiar squandering an opportunity to add a third for side soon after the restart, and that miss ensured a nervous stint for the Olyroos.

Deng's own goal in the 53rd minute, when he turned in Zakria Hannan's firm centre in his side's net under pressure from Rafat, gave the Syrians hope, but Australia reclaimed control 13 minutes from time when Blackwood scored his second with a right foot shot that beat Khaled Ibrahim.

match report from the FFA

The Australian U23 Men's National Team got their 2018 AFC U23 Championship campaign off to a solid start on Thursday, defeating Syria U23 3-1 in Kunshan, China.

A brace to Adelaide United attacker George Blackwood combined with a first half header from Melbourne City FC flyer Bruce Kamau did the damage for Ante Milicic's men as Australia secured three crucial Group D points from their first fixture of the 16-team continental Championship.

Australia scored twice in the first half in chilly Kunshan, where the temperature at kick-off hovered just above five degrees Celsius.

Reds striker Blackwood netted the game's opener when he superbly guided Daniel De Silva's precise pass following Thomas Deng's brilliant through-ball into the back of the net in the eighth minute of play.

Blackwood had a chance to claim his brace less than five minutes later as Australia crafted a similar chance, this time after a great combination between Newcastle Jet Nicholas Cowburn and Central Coast Mariners creative De Silva.

Soon after Blackwood's second opportunity his Hyundai A-League teammate Paul Izzo was called upon to keep Australia's advantage in check. An accurate cross into the box was met by Syrian attacker Mohamad Rafat Muhtadi, however Izzo brilliantly denied the Al Ittihad Aleppo attacker.

Australia dominated possession for large parts of the first 45 and duly doubled their lead shortly before the half time break. A fluid move from defence to attack involving Cowburn, Brandon Wilson, Stefan Mauk, De Silva, and Milislav Popovic ended with Kamau nodding Popovic's perfect pass beyond Syrian custodian Khaled Ibrahim.

Milicic made one change to his line-up for the start of the second stanza as Mariners attacker Trent Buhagiar replaced Kamau. The Umina Eagles junior had an early chance in the second half to make it 3-0 to Australia, however his strike after Mauk's pass was well saved by Ibrahim.

In the 54th minute the Qasioun Eagles reduced the deficit in the duel. A crisp cross into the area was inadvertently directed into Australia's goal by Deng, who aside from this blemish produced a polished performance alongside Aleksandar Susnjar in the heart of Australia's defence.

And while Izzo was forced into action twice as the clock wound down, ultimately Blackwood's second goal of the encounter – which he scored in the 77th minute following strong work down the right by Buhagiar – ensured that Australia commenced their assault on the 2018 AFC U23 Championship in winning fashion.

AFC U-23 Championship, Finals Group Stage, Group D

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
14th. January 2018, 16.00	Kunshan Sports Centre Stadium, Kunshan, People's Republic of China			2362

Vietnam U-23..0 v. Australia U-23..0

half time, Vietnam U-23..0 v. Australia U-23..0

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
1	GK	Bùi Tien Dung					1	GK	Paul Izzo				
4	DF	Bùi Tien Dung II					3	DF	Alexander Gersbach				
5	DF	Doan Van Hau					5	DF	Aleksandar Susnjar				
11	DF	Do Duy Manh					15	DF	Keanu Baccus				
17	DF	Vu Van Thanh					21	DF	Ruon Tongyik				
21	DF	Tran Dinh Trong					8	MF	Stefan Mauk				
6	MF	Luong Xuan Truong					10	MF	Ajdin Hrustic				62
8	MF	Pham Duc Huy					14	MF	Riley McGree				
10	MF	Nguyen Cong Phuong				71	7	FW	Trent Buhagiar				
19	MF	Nguyen Quang Hai	72			90+1	16	FW	Joseph Champness				74
13	FW	Hà Duc Chinh				59	19	FW	Deni Juric				62*
SUBSTITUTES													
2	MF	Pham Xuan Manh					2	DF	Nicholas Cowburn				
3	MF	Nguyen Trong Dai					4	DF	Jonathan Aspropotamitis				
7	MF	Nguyen Phong Hong Duy					6	MF	Aiden O'Neill				
9	MF	Nguyen Van Toan				59	9	FW	George Blackwood				62*
12	MF	Chau Ngoc Quang					12	GK	Thomas Glover				
14	MF	Phan Van Duc				71	13	FW	Milislav Popovic				74
15	MF	Le Van Dai					17	MF	Brandon Wilson				
16	DF	Nguyen Thanh Chung					18	GK	Danijel Nizic				
18	MF	Truong Van Thai Quy					20	DF	Thomas Deng				
20	MF	Bùi Tien Dung III				90+1	22	MF	Daniel De Silva				62
22	GK	Dang Ngoc Tuan					23	DF	Ben Garuccio				
23	GK	Nguyen Van Hoang											

Team Coach	Hang-Seo Park	Team Coach	Ante Milicic
Team Manager		Team Manager	
Referee	Mohanad Qasim Eesee Sarray (Iraq)		
Assistant Referee 1	Ebrahim Saleh (Bahrain)		
Assistant Referee 2	Yaser Abdulla Tulefat (Bahrain)		

match report from AFC

Nguyen Quang Hai's second half winner earned Vietnam a 1-0 win over Australia in the AFC U23 Championship 2018 on Sunday and throw the battle for the quarter-final places in Group D wide open.

Australia had no answer to Quang Hai's deflected long-range strike and the result leaves both teams level on three points after two rounds of matches, with the Olyroos defeating Syria and Vietnam losing to Korea Republic in their respective openers.

Victory over Syria in their final group game on Wednesday would be enough to take the Vietnamese into the last eight while Australia face a significant challenge to stay alive in the tournament when they take on the Koreans.

Ante Milicic made eight changes from the team that handed Syria a 3-1 defeat, with George Blackwood, who scored twice for the Olyroos, rested and Bruce Kamau, who claimed his side's other goal, unavailable due to injury.

The fluidity the Australians displayed in that win was absent in the first half against the Vietnamese with the Southeast Asian side wresting the initiative from Milicic's team as the half wore on.

Australia's Ajdin Hrustic twice tried his luck from long range, seeing his free-kick with 12 minutes on the clock saved by Bui Tien Dung before firing just wide 10 minutes later.

But it was Vietnam who fashioned the better chances before the interval. Alex Gersbach's error saw him gift possession to Nguyen Cong Phuong and only the intervention of Ruon Tongyik denied the 22-year-old from scoring the opener.

Cong Phuong caused more concern in the Australian defence soon after and, with six minutes left in the half, Quang Hai's shot across goal from 25 yards out was saved at full stretch by Paul Izzo.

The Vietnamese were emboldened by their first half performance, but it was the Olyroos who went closest to the opener six minutes after the restart. Gersbach's inviting low cross from the left found Joseph Champness at the far post and forced Tien Dung to push the ball out for a corner.

With 18 minutes remaining, however, Vietnam claimed what turned out to be the winner. Australia's inability to properly clear a corner was punished when Quang Hai struck from distance, with a deflection taking the shot past Izzo.

Australia pushed for the equaliser, with substitute Blackwood hitting the crossbar with a late header, but Vietnam held on to record a famous win.

Park Hang-seo: Vietnam head coach

"I want to dedicate this victory to the Vietnamese people. I promised we would do something special but this is just the start. I want to thank the players and my staff, they did everything I asked them to do. We have one match left and from tomorrow we have to concentrate on that game. We always believed we can win the game. We don't know in advance what the result will be, but we prepare to win. Every team has good points and of course today, we were lucky."

Ante Milicic: Australia head coach

"First, I'd like to congratulate Vietnam on a fantastic victory. For them to win a game at a tournament like this is good for their confidence. We knew what to expect in terms of the way that they set up and approach the game with their 5-4-1 formation. It was similar to the way they set up against Korea Republic and we struggled at times to create some clear cut chances. We were vulnerable on the break and we could have dealt better with those situations. Towards the end we created three or four good chances but the ball wouldn't go in, so we go home disappointed but we'll assess it and focus on the next game, which will be a difficult one against Korea (Republic)."

match report from SBS

Australia have been stopped in their tracks by Vietnam, falling 1-0 in their second Under-23 AFC Championship outing.

Nguyen Quang Hai broke a 72-minute deadlock at Kunshan, China, on Sunday to lift the country above the Olyroos in Group D on goal difference.

After Thursday's winning start against Syria, Ante Milicic's side now sits third after two games and have it all to do against leaders Korea on Wednesday if they are to progress to the quarter-finals.

Australia dominated possession but Vietnam proved a tough nut to crack, absorbing a heap of pressure against a side somewhat lacking in cohesion.

Recent Socceroos bolter Ajdin Hrustic had Australia's best first-half chance, curling a shot just wide of the post.

But there was traffic coming the other way too, and a classy flying save from Paul Izzo stopped Quang Hai making his mark just before halftime.

After the break George Blackwood came off the bench and looked certain to have snapped the stalemate with a superb header off an expert Keanu Baccus delivery.

But no sooner had the ball gone in off the far post the offside flag was up.

The assault continued when Blackwood hit the crossbar and Joe Champness' effort was pushed away by Bui Tien Dung.

In the end, Vietnam caught the Olyroos on the break and the subsequent scramble in the box saw the ball pop free to Quang Hai.

The midfielder struck from distance, his shot taking a lucky deflection before nestling into the corner of the net.

AFC U-23 Championship, Finals Group Stage, Group D

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
17th. January 2018, 19.30	Kunshan Sports Centre Stadium, Kunshan, People's Republic of China			678

Korea Republic U-23..3 v. Australia U-23..2

half time, Korea Republic U-23..2 v. Australia U-23..0

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
1	GK	Kang Hyeon-Mu		89			1	GK	Paul Izzo				
2	DF	Park Jae-Woo					2	DF	Nicholas Cowburn	72			
5	DF	Hwang Hyun-Soo					3	DF	Alexander Gersbach				
19	DF	Kuk Tae-Jung					5	DF	Aleksandar Susnjar		21		
22	DF	Lee Sang-Min					20	DF	Thomas Deng				
6	MF	Hwang Ki-Wook		46		61	23	DF	Ben Garuccio				58
8	MF	Han Seung-Gyu	44			79	10	MF	Ajdin Hrustic				
10	MF	Yoon Seung-Won					14	MF	Riley McGree				45
16	MF	Jang Yun-Ho					17	MF	Brandon Wilson				82
9	FW	Lee Keun-Ho	18, 65			68	22	MF	Daniel De Silva				
11	FW	Cho Young-Wook					9	FW	George Blackwood				
SUBSTITUTES													
3	DF	Seo Young-Jae					4	DF	Jonathan Aspropotamitis				
4	DF	Go Myeong-Seok					6	MF	Aiden O'Neill				
12	MF	Cho Yu-Min				79	7	FW	Trent Buhagiar	76			45
13	DF	Yu Yeong-Jae					8	MF	Stefan Mauk				82
14	FW	Kim Gun-Hee					12	GK	Thomas Glover				
15	MF	Choi Jae-Hun				61	13	FW	Milislav Popovic				58
17	MF	Cho Jae-Wan					15	DF	Keanu Baccus				
18	FW	Park In-Hyeok				68	16	FW	Joseph Champness				
20	DF	Jo Sung-Wook					18	GK	Danijel Nizic				
21	GK	Lee Tae-Hui					19	FW	Deni Juric				
							21	DF	Ruon Tongyik				

Team Coach	Kim Bong-Gil	Team Coach	Ante Milicic
Team Manager		Team Manager	
Referee	Abdulrahman Al-Jassim (Qatar)		
Assistant Referee 1	Taleb Al-Marri (Qatar)		
Assistant Referee 2	Abdukhamidullo Rasulov (Uzbekistan)		

Seo Young-Jae is listed as Lee Gun in the Korea Republic squad list by the AFC.

match report from SBS

Australia have crashed out of the Asian U23 Championship despite a furious late comeback in their 3-2 defeat to South Korea.

For much of the match the Olyroos struggled to keep up with a strong, intense and relentless Korean outfit, falling 3-0 behind after 65 minutes of their final Group D clash in Kunshan on Wednesday night.

The embarrassment of that scoreline might actually have sparked them into action, with Nick Cowburn and Trent Buhagiar both scoring in the space of four minutes midway through the second half as Australia visibly upped the tempo in response.

However, they could not find an equaliser to avoid yet another group-stage failure at youth international level.

Australia's hopes of reaching Tokyo 2020 have also taken a hit, with the early exit meaning their seeding will be affected for the Olympic qualifying tournament in two years.

The Olyroos were largely unable to hit the defence-splitting passes they needed to bypass the resolute South Korean defence and too often retreated backwards until their sudden improvement after conceding a third goal.

In some ways it was a repeat of their 1-0 defeat to Vietnam, when the Olyroos enjoyed a whopping 75 per cent of possession but couldn't convert that dominance into goals.

South Korea made it look easy. A speculative long ball provided their first real opening, which led to their first goal in the 18th minute.

Thumped from halfway, it carried into the penalty box and with Paul Izzo electing not to come out for the ball, Han Seung-gyu latched onto it and zeroed in on goal.

Han's effort was cleared off the line by Thomas Deng, only for the rebound to come straight back to him, and his scuffed second attempt fell fortuitously to Lee Keun-ho, unmarked and in point-blank range.

Han and Lee combined again with some neat interplay to set up South Korea's second goal - a sucker-punch for Australia right on the stroke of halftime - while Lee completed his brace in the 65th minute to deliver what looked to be the final nail.

It wasn't. Australia still had plenty left to give and suddenly things started to come together in the final third.

But try as they might, they could not level the scores, with striker George Blackwood spurning two good chances to do so in the dying minutes.

match report from AFC

Lee Keun-ho scored twice as Korea Republic moved into the quarter-finals of the AFC U23 Championship 2018 on Wednesday evening with Kim Bong-gil's side edging Australia 3-2 in a thrilling climax to Group D..

Lee's goals came either side of a fine effort from Han Seung-gyi that were just enough to see off a determined fightback by the Olyroos and set up a last eight meeting with Malaysia on Saturday.

Two goals in six minutes late in the second half from Nicholas Cowburn and Trent Buhagiar gave Ante Milicic's team hope of salvaging the win needed to advance to the quarter-finals, but the defeat means Australia exit the competition.

The Koreans inflicted the fatal wounds to Australia's hopes in a spell-binding opening 45 minutes that ended with Kim's side holding a two-goal advantage before effectively finishing off the job with a quarter of the game remaining with their third.

The 2016 runners-up were the sharper of the two teams in the first half, with Yoon Seung-won warming Paul Izzo's hands just 11 minutes into the game with an attempt from long range before Lee put his side in front seven minutes later.

Han Seung-gyu pulled down a high ball inside the Australian penalty before turning Izzo, only for his attempt at goal to be cleared off the line by Thomas Deng. But Lee slotted home the loose ball.

Izzo was kept busy in the Australian goal, parrying Yoon's shot before Lee dragged his effort across the face of goal, while Cho Young-wook's attempt suffered a similar fate just ahead of half-time.

The Koreans still had time to double their advantage prior to the interval and Han finished off a fine move by leaving Deng on the deck and shooting past Izzo.

Needing to win to stay in the competition, Australia came out in positive fashion with George Blackwood and Ajdin Hrustic threatening before Lee looked to have killed off the game with Korea's third.

Kuk Tae-jeong's curling through-ball from the left found Lee in acres of space and the Pohang Steelers striker calmly rolled the ball home.

With time ticking down on their involvement in the tournament, Australia threw everything forward and, finally, found their way back into the game.

Cowburn beat Kang Hyeon-mu at his near-post with 18 minutes remaining to give Australia a lifeline and, six minutes later, the deficit was reduced to a solitary goal when Buhagiar converted, but in the end it was too little too late for Australia.

Ante Milicic: Australia head coach

"We knew it would be a tough game, and to be honest it was a really tough group. All three teams had very different playing styles. We're very disappointed not to progress from the group after the way we started against Syria. At the same time, the defeat against Vietnam set us back a bit and it meant we had to chase the game tonight and we didn't go through, which we were capable of doing. But on the night, we left ourselves with too big a mountain to climb."

Kim Bong-gil: Korea Republic head coach

"In our previous matches, we were lacking in attack, but we scored three goals so I'm delighted with that. But our players were tired physically so we conceded two goals in the second half but I'm proud of the players and that they followed my instructions. Our players had lacked confidence in the other games and I asked them to be more confident on the field and to be more active."

match report from FFA

Australia U23s' brave second-half fightback fell short of claiming a spot in the AFC U23 Championship knockout stages as Korea Republic held on for a 3-2 win in China.

Needing a result to be any hope of advancing, Ante Milicic's men rallied back into contention from a three-goal deficit courtesy of goals from Nick Cowburn and Trent Buhagiar.

But a Lee Keun-ho brace either side of Han Seung-gyu's strike proved too great a mountain to climb, with Vietnam's draw against Syria in the other Group D match ensuring even a point would not have been for Australia to avoid an early exit.

After a quiet opening, Korea Republic went ahead when Lee Keun-ho bundled home amid a scramble in the box.

Izzo came up with a pair of saves midway through the half, with Lee firing wide on the follow-up to the second.

Korea Republic doubled their advantage late in the half through Han, while at the other end Ajdin Hrustic saw strong claims for a penalty waved away.

George Blackwood began to threaten after the break, nodding Buhagiar's deflected cross against the outside of the post from a difficult angle.

Australia's pressure continue to build, Kang denying Blackwood and Milislav Popovic in quick succession.

But Milicic's men were made to pay for their profligacy as Lee completed his brace to seemingly put the result beyond doubt.

Having gone close to forcing an own goal, Australia were rewarded for the persistence with quickfire goals from Cowburn and Buhagiar suddenly swinging the momentum.

Blackwood was frustrated once more by Kang and later headed over in stoppage time with what proved to be Australia's final chance.

GOALS:-

Lee Keun-ho, Korea Republic 18': 1-0. Han Seung-gyu brought down a high ball inside the area and saw his effort blocked on the line by Thomas Deng, but Lee was on hand to drive home the loose ball.

Han Seung-gyu, Korea Republic 44': 2-0. Han played a one-two on the edge of the area with Lee, kept his cool to avoid Deng's challenge and tucked a tidy finish past Izzo.

Lee Keun-ho, Korea Republic 65': 3-0. Lee was spotted unmarked through the middle and the striker made no mistake in a one-on-one.

Nick Cowburn, Australia 72': 3-1. Gersbach overlapped on the left and his low ball across the face squirmed through to the far post, where it side-footed in by Cowburn.

Trent Buhagiar, Australia 76': 3-2. The Central Coast Mariners winger won possession on the edge of the area and, after dribbling past a defender, squeezed a clever finish inside the near post.

AFC U-23 Championship, Qualifying Stage, Group H

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
22nd. March 2019,	Phnom Penh National Olympic Stadium, Phnom Penh, Cambodia	Hot and humid	30C	3118

Cambodia U-23..0 v. Australia U-23..6

half time, Cambodia U-23..0 v. Australia U-23..4

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
22	GK	Hul Kimhuy					12	GK	Jordan Holmes				
2	DF	Ken Chansopheak					2	DF	Nathaniel Atkinson				X
5	DF	Seut Baraing					5	DF	Ivan Vujica				
16	DF	Sin Sophanat					6	DF	Tass Mourdoukoutas				
6	MF	Chhong Bunnath					8	MF	Riley McGree	31			X*
7	MF	Sin Kakada				X	13	MF	Aiden O'Neill	21			
8	MF	Orn Chanpolin					17	MF	Keanu Baccus				
18	MF	Brak Thiva					22	MF	Brandon Wilson	42			
20	MF	Yeu Muslim				X**	7	FW	Joseph Champness	29, 90			
10	FW	Khieng Menghuor				X*	11	FW	Reno Piscopo				
14	FW	Tes Sambath		77			15	FW	Nicholas D'Agostino				X**
SUBSTITUTES													
1	GK	Keo Soksela					19	FW	Lachlan Wales				
13	DF	Ouk Sovann					3	DF	Alexander Gersbach				
23	MF	In Sodavid					9	FW	George Blackwood				
15	DF	Yue Safy					18	GK	Thomas Glover				
21	GK	Svang Samnang					1	GK	Daniel Margush				
19	MF	Chheng Meng					14	DF	Thomas Jok Deng				
17	FW	Sieng Chanthea				X	20	MF	Sebastian Pasquali				
12	MF	Teat Kimheng				X	21	FW	Manyiel Riel Majok Majok				
3	DF	Sath Rosib					10	MF	Denis Genreau				X
4	MF	Chea Vesley					23	FW	Pierce Waring				X
9	FW	Narong Kakada				X	16	FW	John Koutroumbis				X
11	MF	Kan Pisal					4	DF	Harry Souttar				

Team Coach	Felix Agustin Gonzalez Dalmas	Team Coach	Graham Arnold
Team Manager	Honda Keisuke	Team Manager	
Referee	Ammar Ebrahim Hasan Mahfoodh (Bahrain)		
Assistant Referee 1	Abdullah Mubarak Mohamed Al-Shammakhi (Oman)		
Assistant Referee 2	Sayed Jalal Mahfoodh Alawi Mohamed (Bahrain)		

match report from AFC

Four goals from four players in the first half laid the foundation for Australia's 6-0 win over Cambodia, in their bid to return to the Finals for a fourth consecutive time.

Aiden O'neill struck first in the 21st minute to give the Joeys the opening goal they were searching for and from there on, Joseph Champness and skipper Riley McGree made it 3-0 with goals in the 29 and 31st minutes respectively.

Cambodia found it tough to break out from their defensive formation against an Australian side that continuously kept a high-pressing game to find their fourth goal through Brandon Wilson on 42 minutes.

Felix Agustin Dalmas' Cambodia returned from the break more composed but failed to reduce their deficit, before substitute Pierce Waring etched his name on the scoresheet in the 67th minute.

Champness had the last say in the match when he scored three minutes into added time to end their opening night on a high.

AFC U-23 Championship, Qualifying Stage, Group H

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
24th. March 2019, 17.00	Phnom Penh National Olympic Stadium, Phnom Penh, Cambodia	Hot	32C	424

Chinese Taipei U-23..0 v. Australia U-23..6

half time, Chinese Taipei U-23..0 v. Australia U-23..3

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
						START LIST							
22	GK	Huang Chiu-Lin		68			18	GK	Thomas Glover				
2	DF	Hou Pin-I					4	DF	Harry Souttar				
3	DF	Jiang Cheng-Yu					5	DF	Ivan Vujica				
4	DF	Philip John Ponder					14	DF	Thomas Jok Deng	45			X
12	DF	Fong Shao-Chi					10	MF	Denis Genreau				X
6	MF	Hsieh Peng-Long					20	MF	Sebastian Pasquali				
9	MF	Gao Wei-Jie				X	9	FW	George Blackwood				
19	MF	Tu Shao-Chieh					16	FW	John Koutroumbis				
23	MF	Chao Ming-Hsiu					19	FW	Lachlan Wales				X
10	FW	Pai Shao-Yu				X*	21	FW	Manyiel Riel Majok Majok	18, 24			
13	FW	Kuo Po-Wei				X**	23	FW	Pierce Waring	63, 88			
						SUBSTITUTES							
8	DF	Chen Wei-Jen					3	DF	Alexander Gersbach				X
20	MF	Lan Hao-Yu				X	15	FW	Nicholas D'Agostino				
7	MF	Tsou Yu-Chieh					8	MF	Riley McGree		90		X
11	FW	Wang Chung-Yu				X	12	GK	Jordan Holmes				
5	DF	Huang Hsiang-Che				X	1	GK	Daniel Margush				
17	MF	Huang Jyun-Wun					11	FW	Reno Piscopo				
14	MF	Hsu Fu-Sheng					7	FW	Joseph Champness				
18	GK	Li Guan-Pei					17	MF	Keanu Baccus				
16	DF	Lin Kai-En					6	DF	Tass Mourdoukoutas	50			X
21	MF	Wang Sheng-Han					2	DF	Nathaniel Atkinson				
15	MF	Jiang Hao-Ren					13	MF	Aiden O'Neill				
Team Coach		Lin Yi-Lung					Team Coach		Graham Arnold				
Team Manager							Team Manager						
Referee		Yaqoob Said Abdullah Abdul Baqi (Oman)											
Assistant Referee 1		Abdullah Mubarak Mohamed Al-Shammakhi (Oman)											
Assistant Referee 2		Ali Mohammed Ahmed Al-Hasani (Yemen)											

match report from AFC

The Olyroos controlled the pace of the game and were the first to settle with Abraham Majok opening their account in the 18th minute before doubling the advantage six minute

Chinese Taipei tried their best to fight back but fell further behind when Thomas Deng found the back of the net in added time as Australia took a 3-0 lead into half-time.

The Aussies continued their dominant display in the second half and increased their tally after Tass Mourdoukoutas got on the scoresheet five minutes after the restart.

Any hope of a Chinese Taipei comeback was dashed when Pierce Waring scored Australia's fifth in the 63rd minute before sealing the win two minutes from time for a 6-0 finish.

match report from Foxsports

The Olyroos have continued on their path to the Tokyo 2020 Olympics with a 6-0 win over Taiwan in Cambodia.

Fresh off a 6-0 win over Cambodia on Friday night, the Graham Arnold-coached Olyroos were again too strong for their opponents on Sunday. Western Sydney's Abraham Majok scored an early brace before Melbourne Victory's Thomas Deng increased the margin before halftime.

Tass Mourdoukoutas and a Pierce Waring double rounded out the result. In the other pool match, South Korea defeated Cambodia 6-1 to sit top of the group on goal difference.

The results set up a Tuesday night showdown between Australia's U-23s and the South Koreans for top spot in the group.

Only the winners of the group are assured of progression to January's AFC U-23 Championship in Thailand - the final 16-team qualifying tournament for the Olympics from which only three teams will advance to Tokyo 2020. The best four second-place teams will also progress to the AFC U-23 Championship while the fifth-best second-placed team from the 11 groups will also qualify should Thailand - who have qualified automatically for the tournament as hosts - finish as either Group K winners or runners-up.

Arnold has called up the best players available to him - to the chagrin of some A-League coaches - as he bids to qualify Australia for the Oympics for the first time since Beijing in 2008.

AFC U-23 Championship, Qualifying Stage, Group H

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
26th. March 2019, 17.00	Phnom Penh National Olympic Stadium, Phnom Penh, Cambodia	Hot	34C	455

Korea Republic U-23..2 v. Australia U-23..2

half time, Korea Republic U-23..1 v. Australia U-23..2

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
1	GK	Ahn Joon-Soo					18	GK	Thomas Glover				
2	DF	Lee You-Hyeon					2	DF	Nathaniel Atkinson				
3	DF	Lee Seon-Geol					3	DF	Alexander Gersbach				
4	DF	Lee Sang-Min					4	DF	Harry Souttar				
5	DF	Lee Jae-Ik				46	14	DF	Thomas Jok Deng				
6	MF	Kim Dong-Hyun					8	MF	Riley McGree				
14	MF	Jeon Se-Jin					13	MF	Aiden O'Neill				
20	MF	Won Du-Jae					17	MF	Keanu Baccus				74
7	FW	Kim Dae-Won					11	FW	Reno Piscopo				
18	FW	Cho Young-Wook	26				15	FW	Nicholas D'Agostino	16, 24			
22	FW	Um Won-Sang				75	19	FW	Lachlan Wales				
SUBSTITUTES													
21	GK	An Changi					9	FW	George Blackwood				
16	MF	Han Chan-Hee					12	GK	Jordan Holmes				
11	FW	Lee Dong-Jun				75	1	GK	Daniel Margush				
19	FW	Kim Jeong-Hwan					22	MF	Brandon Wilson				74
8	MF	Kim Kang-Guk					20	MF	Sebastian Pasquali				
10	MF	Lee Dong-Gyeong	63			46	7	FW	Joseph Champness				
12	DF	Xu Hwi					21	FW	Manyiel Riel Majok Majok				
17	MF	Lee Si-Heon					6	DF	Tass Mourdoukoutas				
23	GK	Heo Jaung					10	MF	Denis Genreau				
15	DF	Jang Min-Gyu					5	DF	Ivan Vujica				
9	FW	Kim Bo-Sub					23	FW	Pierce Waring				
13	DF	Seo Gyeong-Ju					16	FW	John Koutroumbis				
Team Coach		Cha Sang Kwang					Team Coach		Graham Arnold				
Team Manager							Team Manager						
Referee		Yaqoob Said Abdullah Abdul Baqi (Oman)											
Assistant Referee 1		Abdullah Mubarak Mohamed Al-Shammakhi (Oman)											
Assistant Referee 2		Zayed Dawood Salman Kamal (United Arab Emirates)											

match report from AAP

Victory would have seen Graham Arnold's team top Group H but the Koreans eclipsed his side by virtue of scoring one more goal in their three matches.

An 8-0 win over Taiwan and a 6-1 victory over Cambodia were enough for the 2012 bronze medallists to finish above the Olyroos who are looking to reach the Olympics for the first time since 2008.

However, Arnold's side will join Korea in January's AFC under-23 Championship in Thailand as one of the best four runners-up from the 11 qualifying groups thanks to a pair of 6-0 wins over Cambodia and Taiwan.

In Thailand 16 teams will fight it out for three Asian places, alongside hosts Japan, at the 2020 Games.

Two first-half goals from Brisbane Roar youngster Nick D'Agostino gave the Olyroos the perfect start in Phnom Penh only for South Korea to hit back to claim a deserved draw following a second-half onslaught.

D'Agostino opened the scoring in the 16th minute when he stabbed home from close range after the Korean defence failed to deal with a low cross from Melbourne City winger Lachlan Wales.

The 21-year-old doubled his side's lead six minutes later with a smart finish following a surging run from Socceroos international Alex Gersbach.

But the Koreans halved the deficit almost immediately through Cho Young Wook.

Wook buried a low a shot past Thomas Glover after Harry Souttar inadvertently diverted the ball into his path having blocked a shot from the edge of the box.

Riley McGree then had a glorious opportunity to restore Australia's two-goal advantage on the stroke of halftime when the impressive Wales once again got the better of the Korean left-back and crossed into the box.

But the unmarked midfielder screwed his header wide from five metres out with just the keeper to beat.

The Koreans came out for the second-half in determined fashion and dominated possession as the Olyroos desperately clung on to their lead.

Souttar saved the blushes of Glover with a sliding clearance off the line after the keeper spilled a harmless looking shot that bounced up awkwardly off the pitch.

But the Tottenham gloveman then redeemed himself with superb full-length diving save too deny Lee Dong-gyeong.

The Korean playmaker, who was at the centre of everything positive for his side, was then denied by the post when his curling effort bounced back off the woodwork as Arnold's side struggled to get out of their own half.

But the No.10 finally found a way past Glover with a sweetly-struck first-time finish to level the scores.

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
6th. September 2019, 19.30	WIN Stadium, Wollongong, New South Wales			

Australia U-23..1 v. New Zealand U-23..1

Australia U-23..0 v. New Zealand U-23..0

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
1	GK	Thomas Glover					1	GK	Cameron Brown				
7	MF	Daniel de Silva				46*	10	MF	Clayton Lewis	71			
10	MF	Denis Genreau				69	9	FW	Max Mata				83
5	DF	Ivan Vujica				78	4	DF	Hunter Ashworth				46
6	DF	Tass Mourdoukoutas					5	DF	George Stanger				
8	MF	Riley McGree	56				7	FW	Myer Bevan				
15	FW	Nicholas "Nick" D'Agostino				83*	11	FW	Oliver Whyte				62
17	MF	Keanu Baccus				46	13	MF	James McGarry				62*
19	FW	Lachlan Wales					16	MF	Gianni Stensness				
21	DF	Tate Russell				83	17	FW	Logan Rogerson				89
22	MF	Brandon Wilson (c)					19	FW	Noah Billingsley		59		62**
SUBSTITUTES													
12	GK	Daniel Margush					12	GK	Conor Tracey				
18	GK	Tom Heward-Belle					21	GK	Aidan Munford				
2	DF	Nathaniel Atkinson				83	2	DF	Jordan Spain				62**
3	MF	Samuel Silvera					3	DF	Robert Tipelu				
4	DF	Kye Rowles					6	MF	Dane Schnell				62*
9	FW	George Blackwood				83*	8	MF	Jake Porter				83
11	MF	Sebastian Pasquali					14	MF	William "Billy" Jones				46
13	MF	Aiden O'Neill				46	15	DF	Sean Liddicoat				
14	DF	Thomas Deng					18	MF	Lachlan McIsaac				89
16	DF	Connor O'Toole				78	20	DF	Dylan de Jong				62
20	MF	Lachlan Brook				46*							
23	MF	Connor Metcalfe				69							
Team Coach		Gary van Egmond					Team Coach		Des Buckingham				
Team Manager							Team Manager						
Referee													
Assistant Referee 1													
Assistant Referee 2													

match report from FFA
Australia's U-23 side played out an entertaining 1-1 draw with New Zealand U-23's in Friday's highly-anticipated friendly in Wollongong.
Adelaide United starlet Riley McGree broke the deadlock just after the interval with a tidy finish.
But a delightful 71st minute free kick from Kiwi Clayton Lewis, of Scunthorpe United, ensured spoils were shared in the first of the two-match series.
It was the first match on home soil in close to eight years for the Olyroos, who started on the front foot at a windy WIN Stadium.
McGree went closest to drawing first blood for Gary van Egmond's side, but the 20-year-old saw his initial effort scooped off the line, before his second was blasted over the bar.
Perth Glory midfielder Brandon Wilson, handed the captain's armband by van Egmond, also saw an effort blocked by the New Zealand defence as Australia turned the screw.
McGree atoned for his wayward earlier effort by finishing off Lachlan Wales' pass on 56 minutes.
But Lewis restored parity for New Zealand with a sweetly-struck free kick.
Australia meet the Kiwis again in Campbelltown on Monday, September 9.
The second match of this Trans-Tasman tussle is the perfect tune-up for the Olyroos, who will travel to Thailand in January to compete in the 2020 AFC U-23 Championship.

match report from New Zealand Football

The New Zealand U-23 men have put in a quality performance to draw 1-1 with their Australian counterparts in the first of two international friendlies tonight in New South Wales.

The Des Buckingham coached team, who are preparing for the OFC Olympic Qualifying Tournament in Fiji later this month, competed well with Gary van Egmond's Australian team with nothing separating the sides at half-time.

The Young Socceroos, made up of quality players from across the A-League squads, took the lead in the 56th minute when Lachlan Wales set up Riley McGree for the opener. The 20-year-old midfielder from Adelaide United made up for failing to convert the best chance of the first half when he found the back of the net after good lead-up work from Wales.

Australia kept pouring forward, but New Zealand got back on level terms soon after. All Whites midfielder Clayton Lewis delivered a sweetly timed free-kick to beat Australian keeper Tom Glover in the 71st minute.

It was just reward for Lewis on his return to the New Zealand squad.

In fact the New Zealand U-23s could have claimed the win in the closing stages. With five minutes to go Lewis had a great chance to win the game, but Glover got a toe on the shot inside the six-yard box to deflect it over the bar.

The next generation of All Whites will look to back up this performance in three days' time in Campbelltown.

It was the first Trans-Tasman clash at U-23 level in more than a decade with the last meeting a 3-2 win to Australia in Sydney in 2008.

The two teams have now met 11 times with New Zealand's best results a win and two draws; a famous 1-0 triumph in Adelaide in 1996, a 1-1 draw in Auckland in 2004 and tonight's draw in NSW.

Buckingham, who led the New Zealand team to gold at the Pacific Games, named a strong squad for the friendly with three All Whites Lewis, Logan Rogerson and Myer Bevan in the starting XI.

New Zealand began brightly in the windy conditions at WIN Stadium. They won the first corner but the cross was well contained by Australian keeper Tom Glover.

Australia grew into the game and New Zealand keeper Cameron Brown produced a good save in the 19th minute to deny Ivan Vujica.

The home side's best chance of the night came five minutes later when a clever ball over the top of the New Zealand defence saw Riley McGree in on goal. His first shot was cleared off the line and he blasted his follow up over the crossbar.

New Zealand got down the other end of the field and Lewis had a chance to find the opening goal. The 22-year-old from Scunthorpe United hit a free-kick from a dangerous area, but it was just wide of the post.

The score remained 0-0 at half-time.

New Zealand will take plenty of confidence from tonight's result as they head into the second game but more importantly the OFC Qualifiers.

The New Zealand team will be aiming to qualify via the OFC U-23 Championship in September, where the winner will secure Oceania's place in the tournament.

While the Australian U-23s will travel to Thailand in January to compete in the 2020 AFC U-23 Championship where the top three teams will earn the right to join host nation Japan as Asia's representatives at Tokyo 2020

International Friendly

Australia U-23 1 (Riley McGree 56')

New Zealand U-23 1 (Clayton Lewis 71')

HT: 0-0

New Zealand: 1. Cameron Brown, 4. Hunter Ashworth (14. William Jones 46'), 5. George Stanger, 7. Myer Bevan, 9. Max Mata (8. Jake Porter 83'), 10. Clayton Lewis, 11. Oliver Whyte (20. Dylan de Jong 62'), 13. James McGarry (6. Dane Schnell 62'), 16. Gianni Stensness, 17. Logan Rogerson (18. Lachlan McIsaac 89'), 19. Noah Billingsley (2. Jordan Spain 62')

Substitutes not used: 3. Robert Tipelu, 12. Conor Tracey (GK), 15. Sean Liddicoat, 21. Aidan Munford (GK)

Coach Des Buckingham

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
9th. September 2019, 19.30	Campbelltown Stadium, Campbelltown, New South Wales	Clear		

Australia U-23..1 v. New Zealand U-23..1

half time, Australia U-23..1 v. New Zealand U-23..1

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
18	GK	Tom Heward-Belle					12	GK	Conor Tracey				
10	MF	Denis Genreau				65	4	DF	Hunter Ashworth				46
2	DF	Nathaniel Atkinson				84	6	MF	Dane Schnell				
6	DF	Tass Mourdoukoutas				65*	7	FW	Myer Bevan				
8	MF	Riley McGree					9	FW	Max Mata				63
9	FW	George Blackwood					10	MF	Clayton Lewis				
13	MF	Aiden O'Neill		67			13	MF	James McGarry		68		78
15	FW	Nicholas "Nick" D'Agostino				59	14	MF	Billy Jones				
16	DF	Connor O'Toole				84	16	MF	Gianni Stensness				
19	FW	Lachlan Wales	3				17	FW	Logan Rogerson (c)	45			69
22	MF	Brandon Wilson (c)					19	FW	Noah Billingsley				
SUBSTITUTES													
1	GK	Thomas Glover					5	DF	George Stanger				46
12	GK	Daniel Margush					8	MF	Jake Porter				63
7	MF	Daniel de Silva					20	DF	Dylan de Jong				78
3	MF	Samuel Silvera				59	11	FW	Oliver Whyte				69
4	DF	Kye Rowles				65*	1	GK	Cameron Brown				
5	DF	Ivan Vujica				84	2	DF	Jordan Spain				
11	MF	Sebastian Pasquali				65	3	DF	Robert Tipelu				
17	MF	Keanu Baccus					15	DF	Sean Liddicoat				
20	MF	Lachlan Brook					18	MF	Lachlan McIsaac				
21	DF	Tate Russell				84							
23	MF	Connor Metcalfe											
Team Coach		Gary van Egmond					Team Coach		Des Buckingham				
Team Manager							Team Manager						
Referee													
Assistant Referee 1													
Assistant Referee 2													

match report from New Zealand Football

The New Zealand U-23 men will take plenty of confidence into their bid to qualify for the Tokyo Olympics after continuing their unbeaten run with a 1-1 draw against Australia in Campbelltown tonight.

A defeat is yet to be suffered under the reign of head coach Des Buckingham, who led New Zealand to gold at the Pacific Games and has followed that up with a pair of draws against the old enemy from across the ditch.

His main focus for the two-match series in Australia was not on results though with preparing well for the looming Olympic Games qualifiers the most pressing priority. He will be pleased in that regard as New Zealand again put in an impressive showing to force their way back into the game after going behind early.

The visitors could even have claimed a win – which would have been just the second for New Zealand over Australia in this age-group – when piling on the pressure in the closing stages.

It didn't look like that would be likely just a few minutes in when goalkeeper Conor Tracey was caught in possession, allowing the speedy Lachlan Wales to give his side the perfect start at the Campbelltown Sports Stadium.

Tracey was one of three changes made by Buckingham to the side that faced Australia just a few days earlier in Wollongong, Dane Schnell and Billy Jones also coming in as Cameron Brown, George Stanger and Oliver Whyte all made way.

It was a hero from the first game that appeared to offer New Zealand's best hope of finding an equaliser though, midfielder Clayton Lewis following up his earlier goal-scoring performance with another dominant display in the middle of the park.

New Zealand almost hit back immediately when James McGarry fired a low shot narrowly wide and Max Mata also had a sight of goal but directed his header off target. Tracey then atoned for his earlier error by making an outstanding one-on-one save to deny Wales a second strike.

The Kiwi custodian was called into action again to keep out George Blackwood while Australia struggled to contain the creativity of Lewis at the other end, the Scunthorpe United midfielder sending a couple of dangerous deliveries into the box that the likes of Mata and skipper Logan Rogerson couldn't quite make the most of.

But that combination of players wouldn't be denied just before the break, New Zealand creating a well-deserved equaliser when sharp interplay from Mata and Lewis teed up Rogerson to fire home on the stroke of half-time.

That set up an evenly-poised second half and New Zealand began to emerge as the side most likely to win it. Lewis, McGarry and Myer Bevan all had chances of varying difficulty but Buckingham's men came closest during a spell of pressure late on.

New Zealand dominated the closing stages and very nearly claimed a memorable win when Bevan volleyed a snap shot agonisingly wide while substitute Dylan de Jong and Lewis also had half chances as the clock ticked down.

While a rare victory over New Zealand's traditional sporting foes on away soil wasn't to be, Buckingham and his charges can be satisfied with their efforts in Australia and will be in a positive frame of mind when the OFC Men's Olympic Qualifying Tournament takes place later this month in Fiji.

Match Details

Australia 1 (Lachlan Wales 3')

New Zealand 1 (Logan Rogerson 45')

HT: 1-1

New Zealand: 12. Conor Tracey (GK), 4. Hunter Ashworth (5. George Stanger 46'), 6. Dane Schnell, 7. Myer Bevan, 9. Max Mata (8. Jake Porter 63'), 10. Clayton Lewis, 13. James McGarry (20. Dylan de Jong 78'), 14. Billy Jones, 16. Gianni Stensness, 17. Logan Rogerson (c) (11. Oliver Whyte 69'), 19. Noah Billingsley

Substitutes not used: 1. Cameron Brown (GK), 2. Jordan Spain, 3. Robert Tipelu, 15. Sean Liddicoat, 18. Lachlan McIsaac

Cautions: James McGarry 68'

Coach: Des Buckingham

match report from Daily Football Show

Australia's U23s were, once again, forced to share the spoils with their New Zealand counterparts on Monday night as the two nations played out a 1-1 draw at Campbelltown Stadium.

With Lachlan Wales gifted the opening goal of the game in just the third minute of play after a calamitous error in judgment from New Zealand's Conor Tracey and William Jones the stage initially appeared set for a comfortable Australian win; the goal putting the tails of the Olyroos early.

That breakthrough, though, would be the only time a wasteful Australia found the back of the net; the Kiwis able to bring it back to level-pegging just before halftime when Logan Rogerson fired a shot home.

Coming into the contest off the heels of a performance which was less than inspiring on Friday night in Wollongong, the shift put in by the Olyroos at Campbelltown Stadium once again showed clear room for improvement as the side prepares to try to end a 12-year absence from the Olympics at next January's AFC U23 Championships.

Perhaps to be expected of a side made up almost entirely of A-League based players competing during that competition's pre-season, stand-in Head Coach Gary van Egmond's group lacked cohesion against their Trans-Tasman opponents; their best chances of the game coming not from incisive moments of skill but instead errors in possession from their Oceanic opposition.

Despite the disappointment to not secure a win against a nation they have historically had the wood over, the contest – or series – was by no means a complete disaster.

The Olyroos didn't trail in either contest against the Kiwis and will have two more international windows to prepare for the coming AFC Championships in which foreign-based players – potentially including Daniel Arzani – will be integrated into the side. The press demonstrated by the attack has the potential to play havoc against opposing defences and the coming A-League season will also get much needed minutes into the bulk of the squad's legs.

Nonetheless, the room for significant growth ahead of matches against Asia's best U23 sides was obvious; with a lethal edge moving forward – both in the creation of quality attacking play and shooting – and a tightening of the screws against opponents in transition first on the agenda of van Egmond and permanent boss Graham Arnold.

Australia's confidence was given a boost just minutes into the game when a calamitous exchange between New Zealand goalkeeper Tracey and defender Jones opened the door for their early opener.

Too casual as he and Jones knocked the ball between each other from a goal kick, Tracey found himself charged down by Australian attackers Nick D'Agostino and Wales; the ball bouncing upward as Wales slid in with a challenge on the Kiwi custodian.

Quick as a flash, Melbourne City winger Wales then got up to head in, unchallenged, from close range and give his side a perfect start.

Wales should have made it 2-0 in the 11th minute when, following a wide Max Marta header up the other end, he was played through one-on-one with Tracey by D'Agostino.

The speedster, however, was unable to direct his effort to either side of the charging goalkeeper, enabling the 22-year-old to deflect the shot away.

Though Wales turned heads with his pace throughout the contest, the standout performer of the opening half was New Zealand's Clayton Lewis.

The Scunthorpe United man showed a clarity of purpose and incisiveness in possession that separated him from the pack at Campbelltown Stadium; highlighted in the 22nd minute when he made Olyroos captain Brandon Wilson look silly as he weaved past him into the penalty area before lacing a cross across the face of goal that Mata was just unable to get a boot on to turn in.

Despite struggling for collective intent when they embarked on moves forward themselves, it cannot be said that Australia was without clear-cut chances to find the back of the net.

In an almost mirror image of the opening goal, Wales was able to yet again charge down an all too lethargic Tracey and force a turnover in the 28th minute; his cutback eventually trickling to an unmarked D'Agostino inside the penalty area.

Nonetheless, despite being gifted time, space and an open goal to shoot at D'Agostino, somehow, failed to get his effort on target.

Unable to capitalize on their chances, Australia was then punished for wastefulness just before halftime when Marta stole the ball off Wilson just inside the Australian's half and sliced a pass forward to spring Lewis into space.

Showing great awareness, Lewis was then able to twist his body to cut the ball back behind himself to find the run of a trailing Rogerson who, despite getting to the ball second, was still able to come away with it and fire off a shot that beat Tom Heward-Belle and restore the game to equilibrium heading into the half.

Coming out strongly in the second period, the Kiwis then had a fine chance to grab the lead in the 52nd minute when bouncing ball fooled Tass Mourdoukoutas and allowed Myer Bevan to send an effort in on goal, forcing Heward-Belle into a save.

Riley McGree then had the chance to immediately respond up the other end when he got on the end of a high Denis Genreau cross that, eventually, came back down to earth only to place his shot just wide.

A nice bit of hold-up play after Adelaide United striker George Blackwood was picked out on the edge of the penalty area by Genreau led to the freeing of Wales for another strike at goal in the 65th minute but, once again, the resulting shot failed to hit the target for the Australians.

Looking to respond for the Kiwis up the other end in the 71st minute James McGarry drove forward through the midfield before thundering a shot in on goal but, despite appearing dangerous enough to entice Heward-Belle into a dive, it too sailed wide of the target.

The Kiwis had a series of late chances to win the game when Bevan and Dylan de Jong were able to get shots on target in the final five minutes but were, on both occasions, denied by saves from Heward-Belle.

Australia: 18. Tom Heward-Belle (GK), 2. Nathaniel Atkinson (Russell 84'), 6. Tass Mourdoukoutas (Rowles 66'), 8. Riley McGree, 9. George Blackwood, 10. Denis Genreau (Pasquali 66'), 13. Aiden O'Neill, 15. Nick D'Agostino (Silvera 59'), 16. Connor O'Toole (Vujica 84'), 19. Lachlan Wales, 22. Brandon Wilson (C)

Substitutes: 1. Thomas Glover (GK), 12. Daniel Margush (GK), 3. Samuel Silvera, 4. Kye Rowles, 5. Ivan Vujica, 7. Daniel De Silva, 11. Sebastian Pasquali, 17. Keanu Baccus, 20. Lachlan Brook, 21. Tate Russell, 23. Connor Metcalfe

New Zealand: 12. Conor Tracey (GK), 4. Hunter Ashworth (Stanger 46'), 6. Dane Schnell, 7. Myer Bevan, 9. Max Mata (Porter 63'), 10. Clayton Lewis, 13. James McGarry (de Jong 78'), 14. William Jones, 16. Gianni Stensness, 17. Logan Rogerson (Whyte 69'), 19. Noah Billingsley

Substitutes: 1. Cameron Brown (GK), 2. Jordan Spain, 3. Robert Tipelu, 5. George Stanger, 8. Jake Porter, 11. Oliver Whyte, 15. Sean Liddicoat, 18. Lachlan McIsaac, 20. Dylan de Jong

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
12th. October 2019,	Aspire Academy, Doha, Qatar	Clear		

Lusail City..0 v. Australia U-23..2

half time, Lusail City..0 v. Australia U-23..0

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
							12	GK	Ashley Maynard-Brewer				
							4	DF	George Timothedu				
							13	DF	Patrick Flottman				
							16	DF	Gabriel Cleur				
							6	MF	Panagiotis "Panos" Armenakas				
							8	MF	Zach Duncan				
							21	MF	Jacob Italiano				
							23	MF	Anthony Kalik				
							24	MF	Alberto del Grosso				
							20	MF	Joshua Laws				
							11	FW	John Iredale	X			
SUBSTITUTES													
							10	FW	Denis Genreau	75			
							3	DF	Alex Gersbach				
							9	FW	Gbenga Tai "Ben" Folami				

Team Coach		Team Coach	Gary van Egmond
Team Manager		Team Manager	James Duvcevski
Referee			
Assistant Referee 1			
Assistant Referee 2			

match report from FFA

An Australian U-23 national team selection recorded a 2-0 win in a training match against Qatari Second Division side Lusail Club late last week as part of the Australia's ongoing preparations for the AFC U-23 Championship Thailand 2020.

The squad, who are spending the October FIFA window training in Doha, played Lusail Club at the Aspire Academy, and despite never having played together prior the team put in a solid display against their local opponents.

Ben Folami, Panos Armenakas, Alex Gersbach, and John Iredale tested the Lusail Club custodian in the first 45, before Melbourne City midfielder Denis Genreau opened the scoring with a superb dipping free-kick 15 minutes from full time.

Late on, VfL Wolfsburg II attacker John Iredale doubled Australia's advantage after collecting a defence splitting pass.

The Australian U-23 selection assembled in Doha will play another match against IR Iran on Monday evening as the squad's time in Qatar comes to a close.

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
14th. October 2019, 18.15	Al-Duhail Sports Club Stadium, Doha, Qatar	Clear	20C	

Islamic Republic of Iran U-23..2 v. Australia U-23..1

half time, Islamic Republic of Iran U-23..2 v. Australia U-23..0

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
12	GK	Maeraj Esmaeili Esfahani					1	GK	Daniel Margush				
2	DF	Mohammad Aghajanpourmatikolaei					2	DF	John Koutroumbis				
3	DF	Mohammad Moslemipour					3	DF	Alex Gersbach				
4	DF	Aref Aghasi	25				4	DF	George Timothedu				
5	DF	Aref Gholami (c)					16	DF	Gabriel Cleur				
7	MF	Sina Zamehran					7	MF	Tyrese Francois				
14	MF	Mohammad Khodabandelou					21	MF	Jacob Italiano				
6	FW	Amir Roostaei					23	MF	Anthony Kalik				
10	FW	Reza Shekari					9	FW	Gbenga Tai "Ben" Folami				
11	FW	Reza Jabireh					10	FW	Denis Genreau				
25	FW	Ali Shojaei	4				14	FW	Daniel Arzani				
SUBSTITUTES													
22	GK	Ali Keykhosravi					12	GK	Ashley Maynard-Brewer				
9	FW	Younes Delfi					18	GK	Kai Calderbank-Park				
15	MF	Mohammad Sharifi					6	MF	Panagiotis "Panos" Armenakas	47(pk)			
16	DF	Omid Dorreh					8	MF	Zach Duncan				
17	DF	Seyed Abolfazl Razaghpourrezaei					11	FW	John Iredale				
18	MF	Seyed Mohammad Khorramalhosseini					13	DF	Patrick Flottman				
19	FW	Jafar Salmani					15	MF	Dylan Ryan				
20	MF	Mohammadreza Azadi Andizeh					17	MF	Angus Thurgate				
21	MF	Amir Hossein Hosseinzadehtazehgheshlagh					19	MF	Daniel Bouman				
23	FW	Rahman Jafari					20	MF	Joshua Laws				
							22	DF	Tate Russell				
							24	MF	Alberto del Grosso				

Team Coach	Hamidreza Estili	Team Coach	Gary van Egmond
Team Manager	Seyed Ali Mirghaffari	Team Manager	James Duvcevski
Referee	Khamis Al-Kuari (Qatar)		
Assistant Referee 1	Yoysuf Al-Haddad (Qatar)		
Assistant Referee 2	Thamir Abu Baker (Qatar)		

Seyed Mohammad Khorramalhosseini is also shown as Mohammad Khorram. Mohammad Aghajanpourmatikolaei is also shown as Mohammad Aghajanpour.
Mohammad Khodabandelou is also shown as Mohammad Khodabandehlo and Mohammad Khodabandehloo.
Amir Roostaei is also shown as Amir Roustaei. Seyed Abolfazl Razaghpourrezaei is also shown as Seyed Abolfazi Razzaghpour and Abolfazi Razaghpour.
Amir Hossein Hosseinzadehtazehgheshlagh is also shown as Amir Hossein Hosseinzadeh.
Mohammadreza Azadi Andizeh is also shown as Mohammad Reza Azadi.

match report from FFA
An Australia U-23 Men's National Team selection suffered a 2-1 defeat to IR Iran in Qatar on Monday.
The game, which was played at Al Duhail Stadium in Doha, saw IR Iran go 2-0 up in the first half via goals in the fourth and 25th minutes respectively.
Australia enjoyed plenty of positive moments in the encounter with Ben Folami from Ipswich Town one player to cause issues for the IR Iran defence.
Folami forced the Iranian goalkeeper into a remarkable save that would have made the game 1-1 in the first half, before he won a penalty for Australia immediately after the restart. Panos Armenakas converted the spot kick.
The match concluded Australia's training camp in Qatar, with interim U-23 Head Coach Gary van Egmond having had the chance to work with 17 overseas-based players as well as six professionals from the Hyundai A-League as the green and gold continue to prepare for next year's AFC U-23 Championship in Thailand.
Australia's U-23 Men's National Football Team will take on hosts Thailand, Iraq, and Bahrain in Group A at the AFC U-23 Championship Thailand 2020.
The AFC U-23 Championship Thailand 2020, which will be contested between January 8-26 next year, doubles as the qualification tournament for the men's football competition at the Tokyo 2020 Summer Olympics.
To reach Tokyo, Australia must finish in the top three nations at next year's tournament in Thailand. A finish in the final four of the competition would be sufficient for Australia to seal a ticket to Tokyo should Japan make the Semi Finals.

match report from the Persian League
Iran Olympic football team defeated Australia 2-1 in a friendly match Monday night.
In the match held in Doha, Ali Shojaei opened the scoring for Iran in the early minutes of the match and Aref Aghasi made scoreboard 2-0 with a header in the 25th minute.
Australia scored a goal just two minutes into the second half.
It was Iran's first victory under Hamid Estili, who replaced Farhad Majidi in early October.
Iran Olympic football team is preparing for the 2020 AFC U23 Championship, where it has been drawn in Group C along with Uzbekistan, China and South Korea.
The competition will be held in Thailand from January 8 to 26 and the top three teams of the tournament will qualify for the 2020 Summer Olympics men's football tournament in Japan as the AFC representatives.
Iran have not been in the Olympics since the 1976 games in Munich.

match report from The Tehran Times
Ali Shojaei gave the Iranian team a lead just five minutes into the match and Aref Aghasi extended the lead in the 30th minute.
Australia pulled a goal beck in the 47th minute from the penalty spot.
The warm-up game was held as part of preparation for the 2020 AFC U23 Championship.

The Australian squad assembled for a Four-Nation tournament in Chongqing, PR China was as follows:-
(The FFA has the team as Australia U-23 but the matches were listed in Chongqing as U-22.)

18 Daniel Margush (gk) (Adelaide United)
10 Panos Armenakas (Panathinaikos, Greece)
19 Daniel Bouman (SC Cambuur-Leeuwarden, Netherlands)
16 Gabriel Cleur (U.S. Alessandria, Calcio, Italy)
8 Zac Duncan (AGF Aarhus, Denmark)
9 Gbenga Tai "Ben" Folami (Ipswich Town FC, England)
3 Alex Gersbach (AGF Aarhus, Denmark)
21 Jacob Italiano (Borussia Monchengladbach, Germany)
Anthony Kalik (Hajduk Split, Croatia)
20 Joshua Laws (Fortuna Dusseldorf II, Germany)
15 Dylan Ryan (Willem II, Netherlands)
17 Keanu Baccus (Western Sydney Wanderers FC)
24 Jake Brimmer (Perth Glory FC)
14 Thomas Deng (Melbourne Victory)
1 Thomas Glover (gk) (Melbourne City FC)
28 Kosta Grozos (Western Sydney Wanderers FC)
12 Jordan Holmes (gk) (Ebbsfleet Town, England)
23 Connor Metcalfe (Melbourne City FC)
6 Tass Mourdoukoutas (Western Sydney Wanderers FC)
25 Ramy Najjarine (Melbourne City FC)
2 Connor O'Toole (Brisbane Roar FC)
13 Nick Pennington (Olbia Calcio, Italy)
7 Reno Piscopo (Wellington Phoenix FC, NZ)
11 Al Hassan Toure (Adelaide United)
5 Harry van der Saag (Sydney FC)

Dazu Rock Carvings Cup International Football Tournament

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
15th. November 2019, 19.35	Chongqing Dazu Sports Center Stadium, Chongqing, People's Republic of China	Overcast		16805

People's Republic of China U-22..1 v. Australia U-23..5

half time, China U-22..1 v. Australia U-23..3

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
12	GK	Chen Wei					12	GK	Jordan Holmes				
2	DF	Tong Lei				46	14	DF	Thomas Deng (c)				
4	DF	Jiang Shenglong				46**	15	DF	Dylan Ryan		83, 88	88	
25	DF	Guo Jing				35	16	DF	Gabriel Cleur				78
27	DF	Dilimurati				46***	20	DF	Joshua Laws				68
29	DF	Wang Ruioi				46*	17	MF	Keanu Baccus				
3	MF	Huang Zhengyu (c)				58	19	MF	Daniel Bouman	21			68*
6	MF	Deng Yubiao				46****	21	MF	Jacob Italiano	30			78*
18	MF	Zhang Yuan				46*****	23	MF	Connor Metcalfe				90+1*
17	FW	Yang Liyu				74	10	FW	Panos Armenakas				46
35	FW	Tian Xin				35*	11	FW	Al-Hassan Toure	33			68**
SUBSTITUTES													
5	DF	Li Yang					1	GK	Thomas Glover				
9	FW	Zhang Yuning	45+1			35*	2	DF	Connor O'Toole				
10	FW	Hu Jinghang				58	3	DF	Alex Gersbach				68
11	FW	Chen Binbin				46*	5	DF	Harry van der Saag				78
13	DF	Wei Zhen				46****	6	DF	Tass Mourdoukoutaas				90+1
14	DF	Zhao Jianfei				46**	7	MF	Reno Piscopo				78*
15	DF	Feng Boxuan		80		46	8	MF	Zac Duncan				68*
19	MF	Huang Cong				46*****	9	FW	Gbenga Tai "Ben" Folami	85			68**
24	MF	Duan Liuyu				35	13	MF	Nick Pennington				90+1*
28	DF	Yang Shuai				46***	24	MF	Jake Brimmer				
30	GK	Li Guanxi					25	FW	Ramy Najjarine	63			46, 90+1
33	MF	Zhang Lingfeng				74	28	MF	Kostadinos Grozos				

Team Coach	Hao Wei	Team Coach	Gary van Egmond
Team Manager		Team Manager	
Referee	Gu Chunhan (People's Republic of China)		
Assistant Referee 1	Zhou Fei (People's Republic of China)		
Assistant Referee 2	Guo Jingtao (People's Republic of China)		

match report from FFA

Al Hassan Toure's astonishing rise continued as the teenager scored on his first appearance for Australia U-23 in a 5-1 win against China U-23 in Chongqing.

The Adelaide United forward, born as a refugee in Guinea to Liberian parents, declared for his newly adopted nation last week and marked his first start with a goal from a stinging drive from outside the box to make it 3-0 before half-time.

An unknown Toure burst on to the scene in the FFA Cup 2019 in August and went on to take the competition by storm, scoring five goals in five games as the Reds lifted the trophy.

The 19-year-old netted in an emotional 4-0 Final win against Melbourne City and was awarded the Mark Viduka medal as player of the match, a week after scoring on his Hyundai A-League debut against Champions Sydney FC.

Toure was rewarded by his club with his first senior contract and, after receiving his first call-up for Australia, he now has a goal on his international debut to add to his growing resume, exactly 100 days after his first senior appearance.

Daniel Bouman, Jacob Italiano, Ramy Najjarine and Ben Folami were also on target in the 5-1 triumph to kick-start a three-match tour of China as part of Australia's preparations in their bid to qualify for the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games.

Panos Armenakas' well-weighted 20th-minute free-kick was headed past the Chinese goalkeeper by Bouman, who plays his club football in the Netherlands for SC Cambuur.

Italiano, from German outfit Borussia Mönchengladbach, doubled the lead with a curling shot from outside of the box, before Toure slammed in an effort from the edge of the area to make it three.

China grabbed a goal back before half-time, but Najjarine put Australia U-23 back into a commanding position just after the hour mark when the Melbourne City attacker added a finish to Fortuna Düsseldorf left-back Josh Laws' excellent delivery.

Folami, of English side Ipswich Town, ensured the Green and Gold had the final word on 82 minutes with an excellent solo effort, beating two defenders and scoring, to make it 5-1.

Interim head coach Gary van Egmond's side go on to face DPR Korea on Sunday, 17 November and Lithuania on Tuesday, 19 November to complete the tour.

Dazu Rock Carvings Cup International Football Tournament

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
17th. November 2019, 16.00	Chongqing Dazu Sports Center Stadium, Chongqing,	Light Rain		3958

Democratic People's Republic of Korea U-22..0 v. Australia U-23..4

half time, DPR Korea U-22..0 v. Australia U-23..1

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
						START LIST							
1	GK	Kang Ju-Hyok					1	GK	Thomas Glover				
2	DF	Pak Chol-Ju					3	DF	Alex Gersbach				77***
7	MF	Ri Chung-Gyu				46*	6	DF	Tass Mourdoukoutas	75			
9	FW	Kim Kwang-Hyok		50		58	7	MF	Reno Piscopo	61			66
11	MF	Pak Kwang-Hun		55			8	MF	Zac Duncan	30	55		77*
12	DF	Jong Tong-Chol					11	FW	Al Hassan Toure				58
14	MF	Choe Ok-Chol				46	14	DF	Thomas Deng (c)		43		
17	DF	Ri Yong-Gwon (c)					16	DF	Gabriel Cleur				58*
19	DF	Kim Kyong-Sok					17	MF	Keanu Baccus				77
20	FW	Ri Ju-Yong					23	MF	Connor Metcalfe				66*
22	FW	Kim Kuk-Jin				46**	25	FW	Ramy Najjarine		76		77**
						SUBSTITUTES							
4	MF	So Jong-Gil				58	2	DF	Connor O'Toole				77***
5	DF	Hong Hae-Song				46	4	DF	Kye Rowles				
8	DF	Jong Kum-Song					5	DF	Harry van der Saag		81		58*
10	DF	Ri Kum-Song					9	FW	Gbenga Tai "Ben" Folami				
13	FW	Sim Ju-Il				46**	10	FW	Panos Armenakas				77**
15	MF	Jong Chang-Bom					12	GK	Jordan Holmes				
16	MF	Kang Kuk-Chol				46*	13	MF	Nick Pennington				77*
18	GK	Kim Ju-Song					18	GK	Daniel Margush				
							19	MF	Daniel Bouman	87			58
							20	DF	Joshua Laws				77
							21	MF	Jacob Italiano				66
							24	MF	Jake Brimmer				66*

Team Coach	Ri Yu Il	Team Coach	Gary van Egmond
Team Manager		Team Manager	
Referee	Li Haixin (People's Republic of China)		
Assistant Referee 1	Zhou Fei (People's Republic of China)		
Assistant Referee 2	Guo Jingtao (People's Republic of China)		

match report from FFA

Australia U-23's preparations to qualify for the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games continued with a strong 4-0 win over DPR Korea U-23 on Sunday night (AEDT) in Chongqing, China.

Two days after accounting for China U-23 5-1 at the Chongqing City Dazu District Sports Centre Stadium, the green and gold returned to the same venue and turned in another impressive attacking display.

Australia took the lead in the 30th minute when Alex Gersbach's cross caused havoc in the penalty area, leaving Zach Duncan – Gersbach's teammate at Danish Superliga outfit AGF - to lash home the opener.

Wellington Phoenix starlet Reno Piscopo doubled the advantage following a superb free-kick from 25-yards just after the hour mark.

Tass Mourdoukoutas of Western Sydney Wanderers made it 3-0 with a powerful header from Ramy Najjarine's corner.

And the rout was completed by Daniel Bouman in dying minutes of normal time, with the midfielder from Eerste Divisie outfit SC Cambur tapping home at the back post after Connor O'Toole's excellent assist.

Australia U-23 wrap up their three-match tour of China against Lithuania on Tuesday, 19 November (kick off 7.00pm AEDT).

Dazu Rock Carvings Cup International Football Tournament													
Date & Time			Venue				Weather			Temperature		Attendance	
19th. November 2019, 16.00			Chongqing Dazu Sports Center Stadium, Chongqing,				Clear						
Lithuania U-22..0 v. Australia U-23..1													
half time, Lithuania U-22..0 v. Australia U-23..0													
No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
	GK	Lukas Paukštė											
		Dominykas Barauskas											
		Ričardas Šveikauskas											
		Lukas Valvonis					8	MF	Zac Duncan		83		
		Oskaras Lukošiūnas				62							
		Arnas Borodinas				90+2	25	FW	Ramy Najjarine	58(pk)			
		Martynas Vasiliauskas				75							
		Ronaldas Misiūnas				62*							
		Dovydas Virkšas				75*							
		Benas Anisas				62**							
		Edvinas Baniulis											
SUBSTITUTES													
		Rokas Gecevičius				62							
		Neilas Urba				90+2							
		Jonas Skinderis				75							
		Rokas Lazdinauskas				62*							
		Ernestas Andriušis				75*							
		Sergej Amirzian				62**							
		Ainis Vilavičius				90+2							
Team Coach							Team Coach		Gary van Egmond				
Team Manager							Team Manager						
Referee													
Assistant Referee 1													
Assistant Referee 2													

match report from Lietuvos Futbolo Federacija (Lithuanian Football Federation)
Turnyrą baigė pralaimėjimu australams
Eksperimentinės sudėties Lietuvos vaikinų U-22 rinktinė sužaidė paskutines „Dazu Rock Carvings Cup“ turnyro rungtynes Čongčinge. Mūsiškiai rungėsi prieš bendraamžius iš Australijos, kuriems nusileido rezultatu 0:1.
Varžovai turėjo didesnę kamuolio kontrolę, tačiau pirmajame kėlinyje neįveikė darniai besigynusios lietuvių rinktinės. Antrajame kėlinyje rungtynių teisėjas du kartus skyrė 11 metrų baudinį į Luko Paukštės gintus vartus.
Lietuvių vartininkas atrėmė smūgį, bet antrąsyk turėjo traukti kamuolį iš savų vartų.
Rungtynių pabaigoje lietuviai turėjo gerą progą išlyginti rezultatą, tačiau Sergejus Amirzianas vietoj smūgio į vartus pasirinko perduoti kamuolį Edvinui Baniuliui ir australų gynėjai spėjo neutralizuoti grėsmę.
„Dazu Rock Carvings Cup“ turnyro organizatoriai geriausio vartininko prizą įteikė Lukui Paukštei.

Rungtynių statistika
Lietuva – Australija 0:1 (0:0)
Teisėjas – Li Haixin (Kinija)
Įvartis: 58 min. iš 11 m baudinio Ramy Najjarine (Australija)
Įspėtas: 83 min. Zach Duncan (Australija)
Lietuvos vaikinų U-22 rinktinės sudėtis: Lukas Paukštė, Dominykas Barauskas, Ričardas Šveikauskas, Lukas Valvonis, Oskaras Lukošiūnas (62 min. Rokas Gecevičius), Arnas Borodinas (90+2 min. Neilas Urba), Martynas Vasiliauskas (75 min. Jonas Skinderis), Ronaldas Misiūnas (62 min. Rokas Lazdinauskas), Dovydas Virkšas (75 min. Ernestas Andriušis), Benas Anisas (62 min. Sergej Amirzian), Edvinas Baniulis (90+2 min. Ainis Vilavičius).

a loose translation is:-
The tournament ended with a defeat to the Australians
An experimental line-up from the Lithuanian young men's U22 team played the last match of the "Dazu Rock Carvings Cup in Chongqing. Our team competed against their Australian counterparts falling 0-1.
Our opponents had more control over the ball, but in the first half the defending Lithuanian team managed to survive. In the second half, the match referee twice awarded a 11-meter penalty against Lukas Paukštė's goal.
The Lithuanian goalkeeper at first saved but had to retrieve the ball from his own goal the second time.
Near the end of the match, the Lithuanians had a good chance to level the score, but instead Sergejus Amirzian's shot went to Edvin Baniulis and then the Australian defenders neutralized the threat.
The organizers of the "Dazu Rock Carvings Cup" gave the best goalkeeper prize to Lukui Paukštei.

Match statistics:-
Lithuania – Australia 0:1 (0:0)
Referee - Li Haixin (China)
Goal: 58 min from 11 m penalty Ramy Najjarine (Australia)
Warning: 83 min. Zach Duncan (Australia)
Lithuanian young men U-22 line-up:- Lukas Paukštė, Dominykas Barauskas, Ričardas Šveikauskas, Lukas Valvonis, Oskaras Lukošiūnas (62 min. Rokas Gecevičius), Arnas Borodinas (90+2 min. Neilas Urba), Martynas Vasiliauskas (75 min. Jonas Skinderis), Ronaldas Misiūnas (62 min. Rokas Lazdinauskas), Dovydas Virkšas (75 min. Ernestas Andriušis), Benas Anisas (62 min. Sergej Amirzian), Edvinas Baniulis (90+2 min. Ainis Vilavičius).